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THE MILL BUILDING AT THE FALLS OF THE GREAT FALLS

THE COLONIAL GARRISONS

OF

NEW HAMPSHIRE

PUBLISHED BY

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE SOCIETY

OF

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA

Compiled for the Historic Activities Committee by
Mrs. Wendell Burt Folsom

EXETER, N. H.
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FOREWORD

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The Society of Colonial Dames of New Hampshire has supplied a valuable record in this list of garrison houses and sites in the state. Fifty years ago a considerable number still remained, if not in their original form, many at least still recognizable for what they once had been. Today few survive, and these few so disfigured by changes in outer shell as to be difficult to identify. Fire, removal to make room for modern buildings, abandonment and dilapidation have worked as agencies in their destruction.

Quite different were these local strongholds from the corn-cob cabins reared with notched logs, found west of the Hudson, which have become fixed in the popular mind as the type of log houses of the early settlers. Ours were built of squared timbers, hewn or sawn, from six to eight inches thick, laid flat one upon another, closely fitted at the corners. Strong beams across the tops of the walls, projecting beyond the outer surface of the lower story, gave support to the attic, or to the second story, where there was one. This second story usually took the form of a framed box larger than the structure on which it rested. A space of several inches was thus left open between the outer surface of the lower story and the inner surface of the upper that gave opportunity to meet attacks, whether of fire or weapons, at close quarters. The windows were usually small squared openings in the timbers, closed with heavy shutters. Practicable loop-holes were left in proper places. The garrison was often surrounded by a palisade — sometimes equipped with “flankarts” — and in some cases lined on the inside with compartments which could be used by fugitive families. The stout palisade itself, surrounding a house or houses, is sometimes called a garrison. A well would be included, if possible, within the enclosure: there are records which mention one in the cellar, and others from which it appears that the well lay completely outside the defenses, or that water must be brought at peril from a nearby spring or brook.

In the Gilman Garrison at Exeter, built about 1655, can still be studied the form of construction of the typical garrison. At the corners were erected white oak posts, into which the wall timbers are mortised. The second story, suspended on the ends of transverse beams, shows the two forms of juncture in use, halving and dovetailing. The single window aperture remaining from the primitive time

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is a rectangular opening, eighteen inches wide by twelve high, cut in the log. The massive front door was studded with nails to hamper the enemy's axe. In addition a heavy wooden grating, which went by the name of portcullis because it closed from above, could be let down as protection when the door stood open.

A garrison of one story represented a protected family home, probably at a distance from other houses. The two-story building was a community stronghold, owned and occupied as a residence by a prominent man, but assigned to certain families near by as refuge in time of peril. The regular garrisons, when their occupants were not caught off guard, were quite defensible against ordinary attacks by the Indians, who rarely came in large companies or undertook a sustained siege. Garrisons were usually placed on an elevation, with ample cleared space about them. They were not so much forts, as fortified houses.

The importance of garrisons in the defense of the new settlements during the Indian wars can hardly be overestimated. Without them whole districts would have gone back to wilderness. Even with such refuges at hand the wily foe succeeded too often in their strategy of intercepting the men at work outside, or sneaking into the enclosure if the guard relaxed. Their practice was to hide for days in the neighborhood, watching with the patience and invisibility of prowling beasts until a door was left ajar, or a group moved too far from their guns in the field; then they struck without warning or pity. The garrisons were reasonably secure, but food came from outside; cattle and crops must be tended, and immunity from attack for a considerable period often led to some fatal carelessness which resulted in disaster.

After the close of the wars, when all danger from Indians had passed, owners of garrisons proceeded to make them more sightly and comfortable. Windows were cut, clapboards concealed the rough timbers, the inside was plastered and adorned with wainscotting, planed boards took the place of puncheon floors of halved logs. Only the one-story buildings, abandoned to use as shed or storehouse, kept their original form, and these gradually yielded to the destructive effects of time. The only garrison in the state now visible in nearly its original form is the one-story Damme Garrison preserved in the Woodman Institute in Dover. The best example of the roof construction of a building of a single story is to be found in the Frost Garrison at Eliot, Maine, a few miles across the New Hampshire border.

ALBERTUS T. DUDLEY,
Exeter Historical Society

PREFACE

This compilation for the Historic Activities Committee was begun as a list of garrisons which still exist in whole or in part, the sites of others and the names of the men who built them. As interesting material came to light it was deemed best to include details of construction of the various types of the garrisons, and a few of the stories connected with them which illustrate the horrors of Indian warfare. The older histories pay little attention to the setting of the events which they record, and it is from gazetteers, town and county histories and occasional papers of the last half of the nineteenth century that the material was necessarily collected. These works vary in historical sense and in style, but they were written by men aware of the need to record what was fast disappearing. The compiler confirmed her data as far as possible by study of deeds, visits to sites and interviews with local historians. It seemed desirable to add to the list of garrisoned houses, the forts and block houses built solely for defense. The illustrations of old wood cuts are from *The History of New Hampshire*, by John N. McClintock, 1888; the Damme and Smith Garrison Houses and Indian Attack pictures are by the courtesy of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Thanks are due to those whose names appear with the data which they supplied, and especially to Mrs. Albertus True Dudley for very valuable assistance in the general revision of the material.

E. K. F.

It ought ever to be remembered for the honor of New England that as their first settlement, so their preservation, increase, and defense, even in their weakest infancy were not owing to any foreign assistance, but under God, to their own magnanimity and perseverance.

JEREMY BELKNAP

GARRISON HOUSES OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

AMHERST

Although there is no named garrison house in Amherst, Mr. John Farmer, in his *Historical Sketch of Amherst*, written in 1820, states:

“Near this period (1753) there were seven garrisoned houses, which afforded places of security to the inhabitants in time of alarm and danger. Besides these there were, according to Douglass, a fort or blockhouse which was maintained at the public expense. . . . Though Amherst was for some time one of the frontier towns, and exposed to their (Indian) incursions, yet it is not recollected that they ever committed much mischief in this place; nor is there recorded any account of their killing any person within the precincts of the town.”

BARRINGTON

Cate Garrison: The site of the garrison house of Deacon William Cate, “the leading figure in the town,” is on Hardscrabble Hill, near the present Meeting House in East Barrington.

Hunking Garrison: The site of Captain Mark Hunking’s garrison is near Winkley’s Pond and the Madbury town line, two miles from Hardscrabble Hill. Its cellar hole was visible in 1930. Captain Hunking, a distinguished sea captain and merchant of Portsmouth, died in this house, in 1782. (John Scales, historian, authority for both garrisons.)

BEDFORD

Goffe Garrison: The site of the garrison house of John Goffe is on the place lately owned by Theodore A. Goffe, opposite Judge Peter Woodbury’s present home, a little way down the stream on land still owned by the Woodburys, who are Goffe descendants.

Walker Garrison: The site of the Robert Walker garrison house is in the North part of the town, on the place of Mr. Jesse A. Walker.

Garrison: Site of an old garrison “on the Patten place.”

Garrison: Site of an old garrison (supposed) on the place of Mr. Josiah Walker. (*The History of Bedford* gives the sites of the above garrison houses.)

BRENTWOOD

Stephen Dudley Garrison: This garrison house was built by Stephen Dudley, son of Rev. Samuel Dudley, of Exeter, about 1684, and at that time was in the town of Exeter. It was a two-story house with the second story projecting over the first. It was torn down over a hundred years ago, or before 1835, and some of the timbers were incorporated in the present home of Mr. John H. Dudley. The garrison house was situated a short distance down the hillside at the left of the present house and its site may still be seen as a slight depression in the land. The old timbers showing the marks of the broad axe may be seen in Mr. Dudley's cellar.

The story is told of an Indian attack at a time when the women were making soap, and that they poured the hot soft soap down through the holes in the upper story projection upon the attackers. (Mrs. John H. Dudley.)

Henry Marshall Garrison: This house at Marshall's Corner, the oldest house standing (1937) in Brentwood, was built about 1705, and used as a garrison. Its walls are made of planks set vertically. (Mrs. Dudley.) Date of building is over the door.

Nicholas Dudley Garrison: The garrison house of Nicholas Dudley stood on the site of the late Deacon Thomas Stowe Robinson's home, on Deer Hill Plain. Stephen Dudley, by deed dated 23 June, 1713, gave this land "east of Deer Hill Mill," to his son Nicholas. The deed was acknowledged in 1716, and the house probably built before 1723, when Nicholas's first son was born.

Nicholas⁴ Dudley (Stephen³, Rev. Samuel², Gov. Thomas¹) was born in the Stephen Dudley garrison house 27 August, 1694. He married Elizabeth Gordon, of Exeter, daughter of Nicholas Gordon. Nicholas Dudley died at his home (this garrison) July, 1762.

Province of } To Mr. Nicholas Dudley, of Exeter
N. Hampshire } Greeting

You are hereby, in his Majesty's name, authorized and required to keep your house in suitable posture of Defence against the Indian Enemy with the men under-mentioned and also as many else as shall list under you without weakening other frontier garrisons, until you shall receive contradictory orders from the Militia, hereby requiring you to see that strict watch and ward be by yourself and them continually kept, as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

Given under our hands at Exeter* this 11th day of April, 1724.

John Gilman, Majr.
James Leavitt, Lt.
Benjamin Thing, Qr. Master

John Gilman }
Eliphalet Coffin } Captains

Nicholas Smith }
Joseph Dudley } Enlisted
Joseph Meseet (?) }

(*History of the Dudley Family*, by
Dean Dudley, Vol. 1, pp. 240-247)

*Brentwood was not set off from Exeter until 1742.

William Graves Garrison: The site of this garrison is on the lawn east of General Rufus E. Graves's house, on the main road from Exeter through Brentwood to Fremont. The garrison house was built, probably, by William Graves who was born June 17, 1704, and died April 17, 1777. He was granted thirty acres of land by the town of Exeter in 1725, and was living in Brentwood in 1743. The garrison was made of heavy, square timbers, planked and clapboarded, and when taken down about 1860-1866, was painted red. The old well, beside a beautiful maple tree, is still (1937) in use. (Information about this garrison given by General Graves, 1936.)

CHESTER

Benjamin Hills Garrison: Benjamin Hills died November 3, 1769, or 1779. His house was a garrison with port holes, and was standing in 1869. His great grandson, Benjamin, lived in it that year. (*History of Chester*, John Carroll Chase, 1926, p. 444.)

Tolford Garrison: Major John Tolford, in 1724, built a house on the Walnut Hill Road, which was used as a garrison. The second story was enclosed with a brick and mortar wall to protect occupants from Indian attack. There was a well in the cellar. The house was later used as a tavern. In 1883, Mr. Clarence O. Morse took down the old house. He stated that in one stick of timber there were five hundred feet of lumber. (p. 414.)

CONCORD

The following data relative to the Concord garrisons are taken from the *History of Concord, 1725-1853*, by Nathaniel Bouton, D.D.

At a general meeting of the intended settlers of a tract of land called Penny Cook, held at Andover 'the eight day of february, Anno Domini 1726: Agreed and voted that a block house of twenty five feet in breadth and forty feet in length be built at Penny Cook for the security of the settlers.' (p. 80.) This vote was carried out, for in the spring of 1728 'the block, or meeting-house, was finished.' (p. 91.)

Reverend Timothy Walker, aided by a grant of fifty pounds from the town, built his two-story house in 1733-4. It still stands, altered and enlarged, at the head of North Main Street. It was forty by twenty feet, with gambrel roof, and chimneys of flat stones laid in clay mortar and plastered inside with a composition of clay and chopped straw. In 1739 it was first appointed a garrison house, and fortified by a wall of timbers. The walls of the Concord garrisons 'were built of hewed logs which lay flat upon each other — the ends, being fitted for the purpose, were inserted in grooves cut in large posts erected at each corner. They enclosed an area of several square rods; were raised to the height of the roof of a common dwelling-house, and at two or more of the corners were placed boxes where sentinels kept watch. In some cases several small buildings — erected for the temporary accommodation of families — were within the enclosure.' (Bouton, 153.)

1739. Five pounds were granted to Mr Barachias Farnum to enable him to build a flanker to defend his mills, 'provided he give security to the town that in case he shall not keep a garrison at his dwelling-house, the town shall have liberty to take said flanker, and convert it to their use.' Mr Farnum's mill was on Turkey River, and his house also in that neighborhood. (p. 144.)

The following official document presents an exact view of the state of the settlement in 1746.

GARRISONS IN 1746

Province of New Hamp^e

We, the subscribers, being appointed a Committee of Militia for settling the Garrisons in the frontier Towns and Plantations in the sixth Regiment of Militia in this Province, by his Excellency, Benning Wentworth, Esq., Governor, &c., having viewed the situation and enquired into the circumstances of the District of Rumford, do hereby appoint and state the following Garrisons, viz.:

The Garrison round the house of the Reverend **Timothy Walker** to be one of the Garrisons in s^d Rumford, and that

the following inhabitants, with their familys, viz.: [here follow eight names] be, and hereby are, ordered and stated at that Garrison.

Also, the Garrison round the house of Capt. **Ebenezer Eastman** to be one Garrison, and that the following inhabitants, with their familys, viz.: [thirteen names] be, and hereby are, ordered and stated at said Garrison. (On east side of river.)

With the same formula the document appoints garrisons round the houses of the following persons, with lists. The locations are Bouton's, 1853.

Henry Lovejoy. (West Parish, where Levi Hutchins now lives; ten families.)

Jonathan Eastman. (Mill Road, opposite house of Aaron Shute; eight families.)

Lieut. Jeremiah Stickney. (Where Joseph Stickney now lives; twenty families.)

Joseph Hall. (Where the late Dea. Jonathan Wilkins lived; fifteen families.)

Timothy Walker, Jr. (Near where George Hutchins now lives; twenty-two families.)

And, inasmuch as the inhabitants who reside in the Garrison round the house of Mr George Abbot; the Garrison round the house of Mr Edward Abbot, and the Garrison round the house of Mr James Osgood have as yet made no provision for house-room and conveniences in the respective Garrisons where they are placed, for themselves and familys, and the season of the year so much demanding their labor for their necessary support that it renders it difficult to move immediately — Therefore, that they for the present, and until January next, or until further order, have leave, and be continued in the several Garrisons where they now are, and so long as there stated, to attend the necessary duty of watching, warding, &c, equally as if the same had been determined standing Garrisons.

Joseph Blanchard	}	Com ^e , &c
Benjamin Rolfe	}	
Zacheus Lovewell	}	

Rumford, May 15, 1746.

Province of }
New Hamp^e } District of Rumford, March y^e 21st, 1746-47

We, the subscribers, Committee of Militia, &c, at the request of sundry of the inhabitants of Rumford afores^d — representing their uneasiness with the orders not being complied with, and the pressing of the enemy having compelled two of the stated Garrisons to break up, and by that

means apprehending a further view and settlement to be necessary —

Have therefore repaired to Rumford afores^d and reviewed their circumstances and do still continue the following Garrisons, as at first, viz: The Garrison round the house of the Rev^d Timothy Walker — Also, the Garrison round the house of Jeremiah Stickney — and have further ordered that the house of Mr Edward Abbot, being near and convenient to make one joynt defence with s^d Stickney's Garrison, be likewise garrisoned—both which housen to be looked upon, and in all Garrison priviledges and duties to be, one Garrison; — Also, that the Garrison round the house of Mr Timothy Walker, jun., — and Mr Joseph Hall, be continued with the inhabitants before ordered there; and that the Garrison round the house of Mr Henry Lovejoy and the Garrison at Jonathan Eastman's house [outside the settlement, at West Parish and Millville] be thrown up and not kept, until the inhabitants posted at these Garrisons, or either of them, shall have further assistance and be ready to return; — and in the mean time they are respectively ordered to the following Garrisons, as may be most convenient for them [those mentioned above] which four garrisons, in our judgment, is as many as can be admitted for the interest and safety of the inhabitants, and the places well situated for the defence of the town.

Joseph Blanchard	}	Com ^{ee}
Benjamin Rolfe		
Zacheus Lovewell		

Early in the year 1748 the inhabitants of Concord, Canterbury and Boscawen petitioned the provincial government to have the garrison which had been abandoned at the grist mill of Henry Lovejoy in West Concord renewed. They set forth that 'the two last mentioned places are greatly distressed for want of a suitable grist mill — and that it is the only mill in all three towns that stands under the command of the guns of a garrison. That the ill consequences of abandoning the said garrison the year past has been severely felt by us. That the said Lovejoy appears desirous of residing there again, provided he might be favored with such a number of soldiers as just to keep his garrison with a tolerable degree of safety.' (*N. H. Town Papers*, Vol. XI, p. 391. *History of Canterbury*, p. 35.)

Benjamin Abbot's House. Although this house was not listed as a garrison, it was built for protection against Indian attack. Benjamin Abbot . . . became a proprietor by purchasing an original right. . . . He built and lived in the house on the south side of the Bog Road, leading to Dunbar-

ton, near South Street. The house was framed, and the spaces between the studs filled with brick and mortar. The eaves projected over the sides, that, if attacked by Indians, he might fire down upon them, or pour water, if they attempted to burn it. The house is now owned by his great-grandson, Jeremiah S. Noyes, Esq. (Bouton, p. 623.)

DEERFIELD

Longfellow Garrison: The site of the first garrison house is one mile south of Deerfield Parade on the road to Nottingham. Else Cilley Chapter, D. A. R., marked this site with a boulder and bronze tablet, which reads: "Site of the Garrison House built by Capt. Jonathan Longfellow, in 1743. The farm paid for in Slaves. Bought in 1765 by Major Simon Marston, who served during the Revolutionary War, and since occupied by his descendants."

DERRY

The section of old Londonderry which contained the garrisons is now East Derry and Derry Village.

Garrison Houses: Notwithstanding Londonderry dwelt in comparative security from Indian attacks, a few garrison houses were built to which the people could repair should danger impend. The house of Capt. James Gregg, near his grist mill built in 1722, was a garrison, and also the house of Samuel Barr, now Mr. Thwyng's. The town paid for a flanker for Rev. Mr. McGregor's dwelling, and there were other garrisons in the East Parish. In the West Parish a garrison stood on the spot where now (1882) stands the house of Jonathan W. Peabody. Mr. John A. Plumer, who was born in the *old* house, remembers when a boy looking through the holes cut in the immense timbers, through which an assailed party could thrust their guns. John Woodburn, a proprietor who died in 1780, is said to have lived in a garrison house.

In June, 1718, the province of New Hampshire enacted a law requiring towns to keep on hand one barrel of good powder, two hundredweight of bullets, three hundred flints for every sixty listed soldiers for use in case of an Indian attack. Londonderry obeyed the law of the land and always had a full supply of the required ammunition. A few of the bullets are still kept and ready for use. People were paid for taking charge of the town stock. By vote of the town at one time the stock of powder was stored in the attics of the meeting houses, a pleasant and useful place in case of lightning during church services. In 1745, voted to

buy two barrels of gunpowder and lodge one-half in the old meeting-house, and the other half in the new. (*History of Rockingham County*, Hurd, 1882, p. 571.)

DOVER

In that part of the town of Dover, which lies about the falls in the river Cochecho, were five garrisoned houses; three on the north side, viz. Waldron's, Otis's and Beard's; and two on the south side, viz. Peter Coffin's and his son's. These houses were surrounded with timber-walls, the gates of which, as well as the house doors, were secured with bolts and bars. The neighboring families retired to these houses by night; but by an unaccountable negligence no watch was kept. (*History of New Hampshire* by Jeremy Belknap, p. 124. Chapter X. The War with the French and Indians, commonly called King William's War.)

Walderne Garrison: A marker on the National Block shows the site of the Major Richard Walderne (Waldron) garrison house where he was massacred June 28, 1689, with a score of others. The house, built about 1664, was surrounded with a stockade and fortified as a garrison in 1674.

The story of the betrayal of four hundred Indians assembled at Dover in 1676, and the horrible revenge on Waldron thirteen years later, is told in all histories. *Belknap* offers some justification of Waldron's conduct. (Chap. V, p. 75.)

Otis Garrison: The Richard Otis garrison house, the second house he built in Dover, stood on a grant of fifty acres on the west side of Central Avenue, then called "the Cart-way," on the site of the house which stands on Mt. Vernon Street south of the Christian Science Church. He made it a garrison when the Indian Wars began, by surrounding it with a high stockade which enclosed a large yard in which he had his blacksmith shop. He resided here several years preceding the massacre of June, 1689, when he was shot by the Indians. (*New England Historic Genealogical Register*, 1851, Vol. 5. — *Genealogy of the Otis Family*, Hon. Horatio N. Otis, of New York. Also, *History of Dover*, John Scales.)

Heard Garrison: The site of Captain John Heard's garrison is supposed to be near where the brick house known as the Bangs house, on Central Avenue, now stands. "On Dec. 5, 1662, John Heard received a grant of fifty acres of 'upland under ye Great Hill at Cochecho, on ye south side of the great Hill, beloe the Cartway, at the second descent of the great hill and soe to the southward fiftie poell in Breathe and eightie scoer in lenkth.'" On this grant Capt. Heard built his house.

In 1675, when the Indians began to be dangerous, he had a stockade placed around it. Of the five garrisons near the falls, Capt. Heard's was the only one saved in the massacre of June 28, 1689. Elder William Wentworth came to the garrison that night for safety. The two squaws who had been permitted to sleep before the kitchen fire opened the gates of the stockade to let in the Indians. Just as they were about to enter, a dog barked and awakened Elder Wentworth; he arose and pushed them out, and falling upon his back, held the gate closed till other members of the household came to his aid. The Indians fired several bullets through the door but no one was hit.

This garrison house was long the frontier post, the last garrison between Dover and Canada.

The best story connected with the Dover garrisons is that of Mrs. Heard's escape, as told by Cotton Mather, *Magnalia*, Vol. 2, Appendix to last chapter. This is quoted in *Rockingham and Strafford Counties*, Hurd, p. 791.

Coffin Garrison: The garrisoned home of Captain Peter Coffin, who was taxed in Dover as early as 1657, was destroyed by the Indians in 1689. The house stood on a high hill near the corner of Orchard Street, about sixty feet back from Central Avenue. The street was so named because the Coffin orchard covered the ground west of the house. This land remained in possession of the Coffin family for more than two hundred years.

"On June 27, 1689, two squaws asked to sleep in Peter Coffin's house on Orchard Street; he permitted them to do so. In the night they opened the gates and admitted the Indians, but the latter, having no special grudge against him, spared his life and the lives of his family. They took everything in the house they wanted; then, finding a bag of money, they made Peter scatter it by handful on the floor for them to scramble for and pick up by firelight on the hearth."

Coffin Garrison: The Tristram Coffin garrison house stood near the present Belknap School house. "After the above described events in the Captain Peter Coffin garrison, the Indians took Peter and his family to the son Tristram Coffin's house, where the squaws had not been admitted during the evening. They demanded him to surrender; on his declining to do so, they threatened to kill his father before his eyes. So they were admitted. The Indians put both families into a deserted house, intending to reserve them for prisoners; but while they were plundering, the families escaped. As soon as dawn appeared, fearing pursuit, the Indians departed in haste." (Data of the Heard

and Coffin garrisons furnished by Mrs. George F. Symes.)

Damme Garrison: This house was built by Deacon John Damme for his son William, about 1675, and stood one-half mile from Back River. It was on the top of a steep hill, at the foot of which on the north, is a brook; on the west a lane was made and known as Spruce Lane, changed by Mrs. Rounds to "Garrison Road." The house was surrounded by a stockade before 1680. The walls are massive hewn logs twenty feet long and more, making the house forty feet long by twenty-two feet in width; in the rear can be seen the manner in which the carpenter joined the timbers in the framing. The oak timbers were never clapboarded. The large garret afforded ample room for the family beds, with trundle beds for the children. The government sent soldiers there to guard it against attack by Indians, but so far as known it was never molested.

After the house had remained in possession of the Damme family for nearly a century, and the Drew family for one hundred and twelve years, and Mrs. Rounds had owned it for thirty-two years, she turned it over to the Woodman Institute. The garrison was moved in 1915 to the city and re-located upon the Institute grounds. It took one week to move it on rollers with the motive power of one horse, and four men who kept the rollers in place. The old building is visited by a great many people during the summer months. The antique collection housed within its old walls is of especial interest. (*History of Dover*, by John Scales, 1923, pp. 210-215.)

Pinkham Garrison: The garrison house which was built by Richard Pinkham, who came with the first settlers in 1633, was fortified in 1675. Rev. Dr. Quint, in No. 71 of his *Historical Memoranda* published in the *Dover Enquirer* in 1852, says: "the garrison continued to be a dwelling house until one side was blown down by a hurricane 27 years ago (1825). This garrison house was located about five rods westerly from the new house which stands on the north side of a lane leading from High Street toward Back River."

Tibbetts Garrison: The Tibbetts garrison house stood south of the Pinkham garrison, and north of the second Meeting House, about half way between the two places.

Gerrish Garrison: Captain John Gerrish, son of Captain William Gerrish, of Newbury, Mass., was born 15 May, 1645; he married Elizabeth, daughter of Major Richard Walderne, of Dover, and settled in Bellamy, a part of Dover, in 1669, where on May 6, 1670, the Major gave him "a house partly furnished," . . . "which house stood a short

distance below the Sawyer residence on Middlebrook Farm. This house escaped destruction in the massacre of 1689."

Field's Garrison: This garrison house was built by Zachariah Field before 1694, and probably as early as 1690, when the plains on which it stood were already known, as they are this day, as Field's Plains. The Rev. John Pike relates that July 8, 1707, John Bunker and Ichabod Rawlings were going with a cart from Lieut. Zach. Field's garrison to James Bunker's for a loom, when they were slain by the Indians. This garrison stood near the present school-house at Back River, but on the opposite side of the road, on the so-called "Paul Meserve farm," on Piscataqua Bridge Road. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, Magazine edition, by Miss Mary P. Thompson, p. 13.) Lieutenant Zachariah² Field (Darby¹) was born about 1645; removed to Dover about 1685 and died in 1720. In 1707 his house was a garrison, himself Lieutenant commanding. (*Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire*, by Charles Thornton Libby, Vol. II, p. 232.)

Hayes Garrison: The site of the John Hayes garrison house is at the northeast corner of Toland and what is now called Mineral Road. At the time the garrison stood there, Mineral Road (not then known by that name) ran east of the house and crossed the Cocheco River a little farther down the river than it does now. . . . There is still (1937) evidence of the location of this garrison house which was taken down in 1812. It is referred to in Miss Thompson's *Landmarks*, p. 62, as the Garrison House of Lieutenant Jonathan³ Hayes. Old deeds show that this house came to him from his father, John² Hayes. A deposition of Peter² Hayes, now in the Archives at Concord, mentions the garrison house of his father, John¹ Hayes. This would carry it back to Feb. 3, 1707 (O. S.), when it was garrisoned by several men. John¹ Hayes was married to Mary Horne in 1686, and John² Hayes was born about 1687. (Mrs. Carl Adams Richmond, Tyngsboro, Mass., genealogist of the Hayes family.)

Meserve Garrison: A Meserve garrison house stood at Back River, the ruins of which were standing in 1875, but were taken down before 1888. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 26.)

Torr Garrison: A garrison was built at the end of the seventeenth or the beginning of the eighteenth century, by Benedictus Torr, but was burned down by the Indians soon after. Another was then erected which stood opposite the present residence of Mr. Simon Torr. When taken down some years ago a part of the timbers were used in con-

structing the present (1888) barn. It stood within the limits of modern Dover. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 89.)

Wentworth Garrison: Ezekiel Wentworth's garrison is mentioned March 6, 1710-11, as beyond Ebenezer Varney's corner, on the way from Cocheco to Quampheggan. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 73.)

DURHAM

Oyster River had been a "famous rendezvous" for the Indians, and they resented the intrusion of colonists. The frequency of murderous attacks over a period of fifty years (1675-1724) accounts for the unusual number of garrisons. In 1694, out of the twelve then in use, five were destroyed during the massacre.

Beard's Garrison: In 1675, the Indians "assaulted another house at Oyster River (Durham) the which, although it was garrisoned, yet meeting with a good old man, whose name was Beard, without the garrison, they killed him upon the place and in a barbarous manner cut off his head and set it upon a pole in derision." . . . The man slain was William Beard, whose garrison stood east of Beard's Creek, between the turnpike road and the highway to Dover, a short distance from the corner.

The Chesley families were nearest neighbors to Beard and probably were in his garrison when their houses were burned, for they survived this raid. (*Hist. Durham*, p. 86.)

James Davis Garrison: Below Jones's garrison were those of Bunker, Smith and Davis, all of which were successfully defended in the massacre of 1689. Lieut. James Davis sent his family away by water and with the help of his brother, Sergt. Joseph Davis, defended his garrison, extinguishing the fire applied to it. Sergt. Davis was fired upon by three Indians. He stooped and a bullet split a sapling just above his head. He shot an Indian whose bones were found in a swamp soon after. Col. James Davis was born at the garrison house near the mouth of Oyster river, 23 May, 1662, and died at the same place 8 September, 1749. He was the most prominent man of his time in Durham, and few his equal in the Province of New Hampshire. (*Hist. Durham*, pp. 100, 292, 293.)

Huckins Garrison: James Huggins (Huckins) of Oyster River was slain, his garrison taken, and 18 persons killed or carried away. James Huckins was a lieutenant; he had a garrison house which stood a few rods south of the house now owned by heirs of the late Andrew E. Meserve, east of the railroad and on the north side of the second road crossed by the railroad as it runs from Durham to Dover. The men slain were at work in the field which lies south-

east of the garrison, beyond Huckins' brook. They were all buried under a mound which still exists in the southeast corner of the field which now belongs to the Coe family. The Indians then attacked the garrison house, defended only by two boys and women and children. They managed to set fire to the roof of the garrison but the boys held out till the Indians promised to spare the lives of all. Yet they killed three or four of the children, and carried away the rest of the inmates, except one of the boys, probably Robert Huckins, who escaped the next day. The garrison house was destroyed. Lieut. Huckins's widow was recovered after a year of captivity at Fort Androscoggin, on Laurel Hill, Auburn, Maine. James Huckins was slain by Indians August, 1689. (p. 87.)

Adams Garrison: The garrison house of Charles Adams stood south of the road to Durham Point, and not far from the ruins of the brick house built by Washington Mathes. This garrison was burned and fourteen of the Adams family perished in the Indian massacre of 1694. One daughter, Ursula, was taken to Canada, never to return. The bodies of the fourteen were buried under a little mound close to the tomb on the east side of the Mathes burial ground, a pathetic reminder of the hardships and sufferings of those who prepared this beautiful land for us. (*History of Durham*, 1913, p. 50.)



INDIANS ATTACKING A GARRISON HOUSE

From an old wood engraving

Bickford's Garrison: The garrison that Thomas Bickford successfully defended in 1694 stood near the water at Durham Point, as traces of a cellar indicate. (p. 49.)

After setting fire to the Adams garrison the Indians attacked the garrison of Thomas Bickford at the extremity of the Point. Bickford's defence of his house seems to have been about the only item of special interest in this massacre that the Rev. Cotton Mather thought worthy of being recorded in his *Magnalia Christi Americana*. (p. 94.) He says: "Several persons remarkably escaped this bloody deluge, but none with more bravery than one Thomas Bickford, who had an house, a little pallisaded, by the river side, but no man in it besides himself. He dexterously put his wife and mother and children aboard a canoe, and, sending them down the river, he alone betook himself to the defence of his house, against many Indians that made an assault upon him. They first would have persuaded him with many fair promises, and then terrified him with as many fiery threatenings, to yield himself; but he flouted and fired at them daring 'em to come if they durst. His main strategem was to change his livery as frequently as he could; appearing sometimes in one coat, sometimes in another, sometimes in an hat and sometimes in a cap; which caused his besiegers to mistake this one for many defendants. In fine, the pitiful wretches, despairing to beat him out of his house, e'en left him in it; whereas many that opened unto them upon their solemn engagements of giving them life and good quarter, were barbarously butchered by them." (*Magnalia*, Vol. 2 Appendix, Article XX.)

Bunker Garrison: The Bunker garrison house was probably built by James Bunker soon after 1652, when he bought the land on which it stood. The walls, except the gable ends, were of hewn hemlock logs, nine inches in thickness. There were loopholes for defence, afterwards enlarged into windows. This was the last remaining garrison of Oyster River that was attacked by the Indians in 1694. The old garrison was allowed to go to ruins beyond restoration. This garrison stood on the hill west of Bunker's Creek. (*History of Durham*, p. 64.) The foundation outline may still (1937) be seen from the road. Of the twenty soldiers sent to guard the Durham garrisons, three were posted at Bunker's. (p. 103.)

Burnham's Garrison: The Robert Burnham garrison — probably the house of Ambrose Gibbons — stood on the hilltop, where the old cellar may be plainly seen (1937), as well as the cellar of a smaller house, or out-building nearby. (p. 57.)

In the massacre of 1694 "the Burnham garrison, on a hilltop, was easily defended by its situation. Hither fled Moses Davis, who had heard the first shot that killed John Dean. Ezekiel Pitman and family, who lived only a gunshot's distance from Burnham's, were alarmed by shouts. They escaped through one end of the house while the Indians were entering the other, and, protected by the shade of trees, made their way to the Burnham garrison, on which no serious attack seems to have been made. Tradition in the Burnham family says that the yard-gate had been left open that night, and ten Indians were sent to surprise the garrison. They were fatigued and fell asleep on the bank of the river near the house. John Willey, with his family, spent that night at the Burnham garrison. He had been kept awake by toothache and heard the first gun fired. He immediately closed the gate and shouted to the Pitman family. The shot awakened the Indians, who at once made the attack upon the Pitman dwelling." (p. 90.)

Belknap's version is that they "ran to Pitman's defenceless house, and forced the door at the moment that he had burst a way through that end of the house which was next to the garrison." This suggests the less substantial construction of the little dwellings dependent on the garrisons.

Drew Garrison: William Drew settled on what became known as Drew's Point before 1648. Doubtless Drew was the first person to live on this Point. The cellar of his garrison house may be plainly seen. The house was burned in 1694. (p. 52.)

Francis Drew surrendered the garrison at Drew's Point, on promise of quarter. He is supposed to have killed an Indian whose bones were found in the house after it was burned. Francis Drew attempted to escape and ran towards the Adams garrison but was overtaken by the Indians, bound and tomahawked. His wife was carried away and was rendered so feeble by hunger that she was left to die in the woods. (p. 93.)

Durgin Garrison: William Durgin lived near what is now known as Adams Point "at Durgin's the west side of Mathews his neck." Here was probably the Durgin garrison mentioned in 1695. The ferry landing seems to have been in a little cove at the southeast corner of the field. Adams Point was first called Mathews Neck. (p. 36.)

Edgerly Garrison: Thomas Edgerly owned land on both sides of Long, or Mill Creek. His garrison house was evidently north of Long Creek, now Meader's Creek, and was burned by the Indians in 1694. Shortly afterward he petitioned that the neighboring house of John Rand should be made a garrison. (p. 43.)

Goddard's Garrison: John Goddard was one of Capt. John Mason's colonists, who came over in the *Pied Cow* in 1634. He aided in erecting the first saw mill and grist mill run by water in New England, at what is now Great Works, South Berwick, Maine. His house, which was a garrison, stood south of the creek. (p. 33.)

Hill's Garrison: Valentine Hill built a house on the north side of Oyster River and lived in it, . . . which house tradition says forms a part of the Frost house on the hill. This, then, must be the oldest house in Durham, and it is doubtful whether there is another so old within the limits of ancient Dover. This house must have been a garrison capable of resisting the Indian attack of 1694. (pp. 69-70.)

Mathes Garrison: The Matthews, or Mathes, garrison seems to have resisted the attack (massacre of 1694), and probably sheltered some of the neighbors. All houses between this and the Burnham garrison were doubtless burned. (p. 94.)

Meader's Garrison: The neck of land between the mouth of Oyster River and Royall's Cove was acquired by John Meader, in 1660. Here John Meader had a garrison, and here lived several generations of the Meader family, many of whom were Quakers. (p. 62.) The Meader garrison was abandoned and burned in the massacre of 1694. The family escaped by boat. (p. 100.)

The site of this garrison was near the summer home of Harold W. Brown—at what was first known as Hill's Neck.

Woodman Garrison: Woodman's garrison was built by Captain John Woodman soon after 1656, when he came to Oyster River. Miss Mary P. Thompson, in *Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 179, thus describes the location of this garrison: "It is beautifully situated on the eastern slope of a hill at the head of Beard's Creek, with brooks and deep ravines on every side of the acclivity, except at the west. It had a fine outlook for an approaching enemy, as well as a charming view in every direction, except in the rear, where the rise of land intercepts the prospect. Durham village which did not exist when this garrison was built, lies at the south in full view, embosomed among trees; and at the east may be traced the windings of Oyster River on its way to the Piscataqua. At the north, through an opening between the hills, can be seen the spot where the Huckins garrison stood, and nearer at hand, but separated from it by a profound ravine, is the field where occurred the massacre of 1689."

Both parties of Indians met at the falls after their raids on the south and north sides of the river and made an

attack on the garrison of Capt. John Woodman, which resisted the attack and remained, with bullets in its timbers, till it burned in 1896.

Rand's Garrison: In the southeast corner of a large field of the John Emerson farm, a few rods from the shore, not far from a fine spring of water, is a depression that marks the cellar of the house built by John Ault, given to his son-in-law, John Rand, and used as a garrison of this region, after 1694. (p. 45.)

A petition written the day after the massacre (July, 1694), by Thomas Edgerly, Sr., "Whereas it has pleased God to cast affliction upon him and his neighbors by the sudden incursion of the Indian Enemyes, etc. . . . Humnly desires your consideration of his Low Condition and that you would graunt him and his Neighbors Liberty to make the house of John Rand a Garrison ffor the Security and defence of some of the Remaining ffamilies adjacent, and to graunt us supply of six men, and shall always pray ffor your happiness and Prosperity." (*N. H. State Papers*, Vol. XVIII, p. 640.)

Jonathan Chesley Garrison: Jonathan Chesley's old garrison house is the one now standing (1937) on the north-erly side of the road to Madbury, a short distance east and on the opposite side of the road from W. S. Meserve's house. The date, 1716, has recently been found on one of the interior timbers, but the house was probably built before that year. Jonathan Chesley bought this land of Joseph Smith who had bought it of Joseph Leathers in 1697. It was formerly a part of the William Beard estate. (*History of Durham*, p. 67.)

Captain Samuel Chesley Garrison: The garrison of Capt. Samuel Chesley (brother of Jonathan) stood three or four rods east of the Meserve house. He was an officer who took part in two expeditions to Port Royal. From the last of these he arrived at Portsmouth in the sloop *Sarah and Hannah*, Thursday, August 28, 1707. . . . Three weeks later (September 17th) he and his brother, James, with six other young men, were slain by Indians while lumbering in the forest not far from Capt. Chesley's house. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 48.)

Philip Chesley's Garrison: Philip Chesley's garrison and "the late" Capt. (Samuel) Chesley's garrison are mentioned September 29, 1707. (*N. H. Prov. Papers*, II, 567. *Landmarks*, p. 48.)

Joseph Chesley Garrison: In Lubberland on the farm of Peter Smith are Chesley graves, and the garrison built by Joseph Chesley about 1707 was located in this vicinity. (*Hist. of Durham*, p. 244.)

George Chesley Garrison: Another Chesley garrison stood immediately in front of the present Christian meeting-house in Durham village. It was built by George Chesley who acquired this land October 16, 1699. According to the family tradition he was killed by Indians near the Durham Point meeting-house, on his way to Crummit's mill. The estate of a George Chesley was administered upon by his widow, Deliverance, and his brother, Joseph, September 5, 1710. (*Landmarks*, p. 48.)

David Davis Garrison: Another garrison was built by David Davis (son of the David who built the garrison in 1695 in Lubberland) at Packer's Falls, early in the eighteenth century, where five generations of David Davises have lived. The original garrison stood on a knoll in the center of the field back of its present location, to which it was moved prior to 1790 in order to be on the highway. Additions have been made by later generations so that the garrison of pre-Revolutionary times forms but a part of the present building, occupied by Eben Meserve Davis. (*Hist. Durham*, p. 356.)

Jabez Davis Garrison: The Jabez Davis garrison was about a mile from the village. (p. 303.)

Jones Garrison: Stephen Jones built a garrison (about 1672) on the upper, or west side of Jones' Creek, not far from the river. It was burned before 1732. The site of the garrison is made known by a depression containing broken bricks, pieces of pottery and of flint. It is about five or six rods north of the road leading to Piscataqua Bridge, and about ten or twelve rods from the Chesley division line, on the plain below the walled burial place of the Jones family. (p. 64.) The farm is now owned by Dr. Alice M. Chesley-Lamprey, of Exeter, a descendant of Stephen Jones. She has marked the site.

In the Jones family the tradition has been preserved that Ensign Stephen Jones in the night heard the barking of dogs and thought wolves were about. He got up and went some distance from the house to take care of swine. Returning he went into a flanker, got on the top of it and sat there with his legs hanging down on the outside. An Indian fired at him; he threw himself back, and the bullet entered the flanker betwixt his legs. A band of Indians from behind a rock a few rods from the garrison kept firing on the house. (p. 98.)

Pendergast Garrison: A part of the old Pendergast house still standing near the Newmarket line, Packer's Falls district, is claimed to be the original garrison. The family living in the house in 1935 stated that it was built in 1737.

In *Baptisms* by Rev. Hugh Adams: "1719-20, January 11, James, the infant son of James Tilley, at the garrison, second falls," perhaps now the Pendergast garrison. (*History Newfields*, p. 310.) If the present building was built about 1737, there must have been an earlier garrison on the site, or near by. The Pendergast family are buried in a family cemetery not far from the house.

Joshua Woodman Garrison: Another garrison . . . is said to have stood near Wiswall's mill, built by Joshua Woodman. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 49.) This would be in the region of Packer's Falls. (E. K. F.)

EPPING

Lawrence Garrison: The site of David Lawrence's garrison house is near the overhead R. R. bridge and was probably built before 1747 when he was parish clerk of Epping. He was a grandson of David Lawrence of Exeter, who had land granted to him by Exeter in 1674.

Sanborn Garrison: The site of the Richard Sanborn garrison house is at the foot of Red Oak Hill. This garrison was also probably built before 1747, when Richard Sanborn was living in Epping and signed the petition relative to building a meeting house.

It is also stated that another garrison house stood where John Waugh lived in 1925. (Sites of these garrisons given by Mrs. Walter P. Sanborn, Epping.)

EPSOM

Garrison: The proprietors built a block house, or garrison, for refuge in case of danger. It was built near Andrew McClary's house. The old foundation was uncovered in 1885 during preparations for erection of a house for Augustus Lord. Mrs. McCoy and family were hastening to and had nearly reached this garrison, when captured by Indians in 1754.

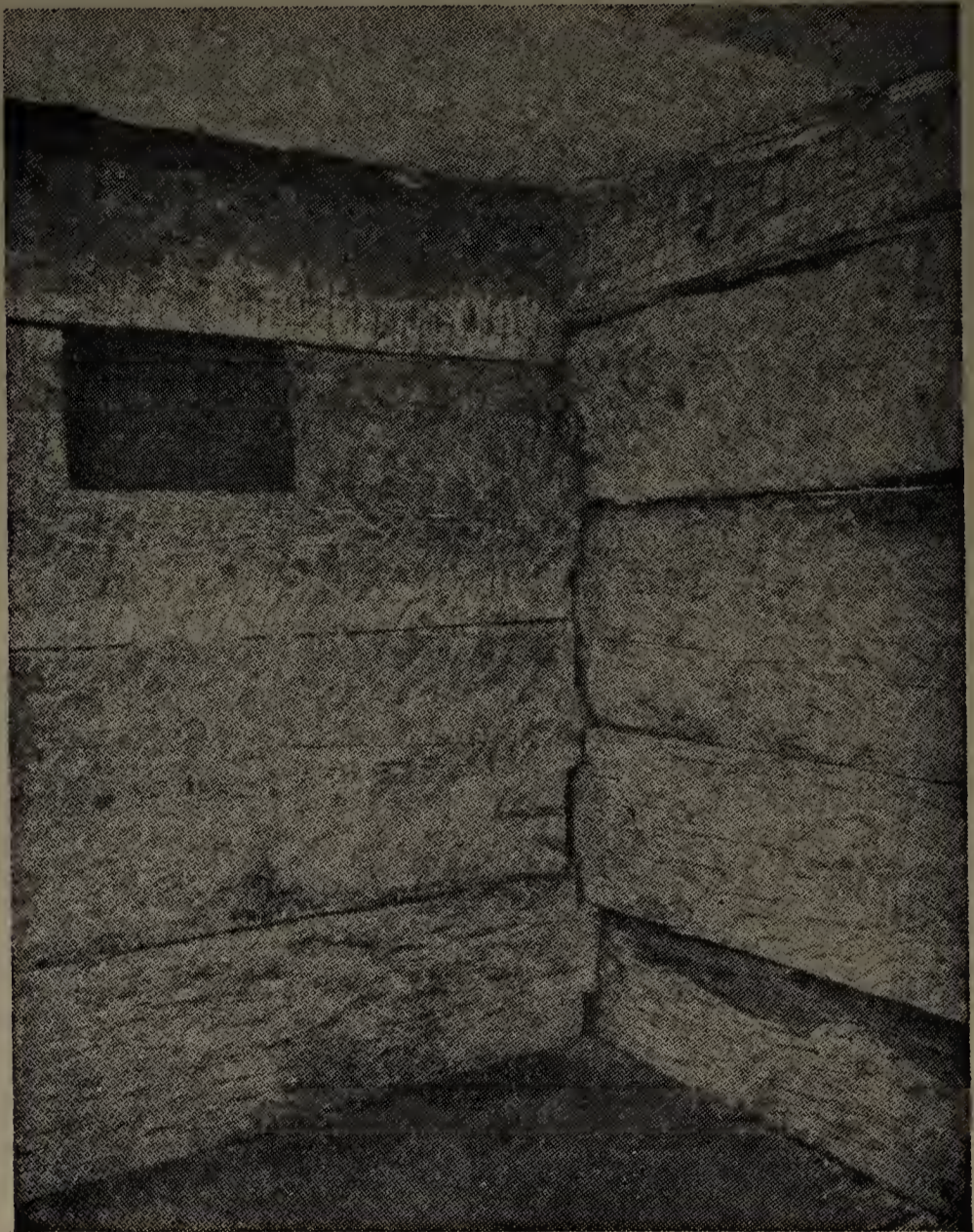
Captain Andrew McClary rendered the colony efficient military service, and was associated with such noted fighters and rangers as Stark, Goffe and Rogers. In 1753 he applied to Governor Wentworth for a company to go in pursuit of the Indians who committed the massacre at Salisbury. At another time he obtained a small company to aid in garrison duty at Epsom, when lurking Indians were seen. (*Hist. Belknap and Merrimack Cos.*, Hurd.)

The monument and bronze tablet at the site of the home of Major Andrew McClary, now on the Lawrence farm at Epsom Center, indicate the near location of the garrison.

EXETER

“The towns of Dover and Exeter being more exposed than Portsmouth and Hampton, suffered the greatest share in the common calamity. . . . When many of the eastern settlements were wholly broken up, they stood their ground, and thus gained to themselves a reputation which their posterity boast of to this day.” (*Belknap*, p. 137, *King William's War*.)

John Gilman's Garrison: This may be called with confidence the oldest house in New Hampshire. Eighteenth century additions were built against it, but the four walls stand, masked by clapboards; and removal of lath and



JOHN GILMAN'S GARRISON, EXETER

Corner on second floor. The log in which the window is cut is twenty-one inches high and seven thick. Sawn log faces were later hacked to hold plaster.

plaster inside shows the construction. The building has already been described in the Foreword. Tradition connects the people of this garrison with an event of the tenth of June, 1697, when according to Belknap, the town of Exeter was remarkably preserved from destruction. A body of Indians were concealed near the town, intending to attack early the next morning. "A number of women and children, contrary to the advice of their friends, went into the fields without a guard, to gather strawberries. When they were gone, some persons, to frighten them, fired an alarm; which quickly spread through the town, and brought the people together in arms. The Indians supposing that they were discovered, and quickened by fear, after killing one, wounding another and taking a child, made a hasty retreat." *Bell's History* gives the place of the Indian ambush as Fort Rock, which is on the property of Mr. Ambrose Swasey.

The Gilman garrison stands at the corner of Water and Clifford Streets, near Great Bridge and the Squamscott Falls. Across the river there was a watch tower which gave its name to Tower Hill. The garrison house is owned by Mrs. A. T. Dudley.

An illustrated article upon this garrison may be found in *Pencil Points* for June, 1933.

Sewall Garrison: This house was built probably about 1676, by Edward Sewall on land granted to him by Exeter in 1675. Edward Sewall died in 1713, and in 1726 his heirs sold it to Trueworthy Dudley.

The house has been remodeled many times and from the outside shows no sign of its great age. The kitchen was formerly in a lean-to. The brick oven is still retained. It is stated a small closet in the attic formerly contained a loophole through which a gun could be trained on the hill opposite in case Indians appeared from the forest beyond. In removing clapboards when a sun porch was added, it was found that the walls were filled with bricks. A summer beam crosses the ceiling of the dining room, and there are three summer beams in rooms upstairs. The old house has had several owners, the present (1937) being Chester H. Smith.

Daniel Young Garrison: The site of the Daniel Young garrison house, indicated by the cellar hole, is at the end of Garrison Lane, about one-fourth of a mile beyond the site of the Barker mill. It is shown on the map of Exeter, 1802, as the house of Peter Cushing. A highway was laid out by the selectmen of Exeter on March 31st, 1746, "from the High Way that Leads by Daniel Youngs Dweling House to

the Great Meadows . . . at the West End of his barn between his two orchards." (Second Book of *Exeter Town Records*, typed copy, p. 65.) This would indicate that the house was built sometime previously, to have two established orchards. Daniel Young sold the west half of the house and the land on the west to Thomas Dolloff, his son-in-law, in 1757.

The name of the original owner of this garrison was lost until a search of records in preparation of this article traced back through Gilman, Colcord, Cushing and Dolloff ownership to Daniel Young. The name of Daniel Young appears in *Bell's Exeter* as a member of scouting parties in the summer of 1710. He was probably a son of John Young, who was killed by Indians in Exeter, July 9, 1697.

An oil painting of this old house has been found which shows a two-story house with overhang, a huge central chimney and a large front door, the well and its sweep, orchards, the road going by the house (laid out in 1746) and the entrance from Garrison Lane. The house was taken down many years ago. Arthur J. Conner is the present owner of the land about the old garrison site.

FRANKLIN

Call Garrison: The site of the Philip Call garrison house is on the state highway in what is now known as the lower village. The first settlement "sprang up about the Garrison House of Philip Call." This site has been marked with a boulder and tablet by Abigail Webster Chapter, D. A. R. Franklin was originally a part of the old township of Salisbury.

HAMPSTEAD

Peter Morse Garrison: Peter Morse, born Oct. 3, 1701, son of Dea. William and Sarah (Merrill) Morse, bought twenty-four acres of land of Stephen Johnson, Sr., April 21, 1727. He cleared the land and fixed his dwelling about half a mile northeast of the present home of a great-great-grandson, Clarence B. Morse. The cellar of the house to which he brought his wife, Tamazine Hale, and where their six children were born, still remains, as also the ruins of the Morse mill on Beaver Brook near by. The house, built about 1727-8, is spoken of as "the Peter Morse Garrison House." (*History of Hampstead*, by Harriet E. Noyes, 1899, pp. 153, 307.)

HAMPTON

Philbrick Garrison: The Philbrick garrison house was probably built by William Sanborn, who, in 1647, sold six acres of land with the buildings thereon to Thomas² Philbrick, who, in 1651, sold the premises to his father, Thomas¹ Philbrick. It has never been alienated from the Philbrick family. The old garrison house was torn down in 1855, and a new house built on the site, which is in the east part of the town on the main road to Hampton Beach. The following description of the garrison is in Dow's *History of Hampton*, Vol. 1, p. 247: "It was heavily timbered, the eastern half of the second story projecting over the first, with openings here and there in the floor of the projection through which shot might be fired downward, or water poured, if the savages pursued their favorite plan of setting fire to the house. Other loopholes guarded the approach. A fragmentary jotting, still to be seen in an old manuscript of the third Deacon Samuel Dow, who lived nearly opposite, — 'Remember, Remember how ye Indians came down upon you to destroy you had you not had help from ye garrison to drive' . . . very likely referred to an attack frustrated by the soldiers stationed here."

Wingate-Toppan Garrison: This house was built about 1700 by Col. Joshua Wingate, who was born 2 Feb., 1679. It was early called "The Garrison House," being stoutly constructed and the residence of the military commander, and later used as a place of refuge in threatened Indian attack. After Col. Wingate's daughter, Sarah, married Dr. Edmund Toppan, the property passed into the Toppan family and became known as 'the old Toppan house.' It was demolished in 1900. (Harold Murdock Taylor, in *Anthony Taylor of Hampton*, 1935, pp. 67-68.)

Many people wishing to inspect the old building and the floors being deemed unsafe, it was torn down, in which process it was found that seven distinct additions had been made to the house during its two hundred years of existence. (*Christopher S. Toppan*, 1937.) The barns are still standing. The cellar hole, now surrounded by elm trees, shows the site of the garrison which is on the west side of Lafayette road about five hundred feet south of Whittier's Corner. Old photographs show an ornamental fence in front of the house consisting of fancy panels eight feet long, a different design in each panel, one being a spider web. The posts were ornamented with turned tops. The *History of Hampton* states that the house was originally surrounded by a stockade.

HAMPTON FALLS

Bonus Norton Garrison: The Marshall place, near the Hampton causeway on Lafayette highway, was the site of a garrison house at the early settlement of the town, where Bonus Norton was living soon after 1700. A covered well, found within recent years, was probably used by the garrison.

Bonus Norton was born in England in 1657, and died in Hampton Falls in 1718, aged 61. His gravestone is the oldest inscribed stone in the Quaker Cemetery in Seabrook. Robert Marshall, a later owner of the place, lived in the old garrison house until his death in 1844, aged 90 years. His son, John Marshall, built the present house in 1846. It is now (1937) the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Chase. Mrs. Chase is a granddaughter of John Marshall. (*Hampton Falls*, Brown, Vol. 1, pp. 570-571. *Hampton*, Dow, Vol. 2, p. 882.)

James Prescott Garrison: James Prescott, from Lincolnshire, England, came to Hampton in 1665 and settled in what is now Hampton Falls. He married in 1668, Mary, daughter of Nathaniel Boulter, and built a garrison house which was called "Prescott's Fort." This original Prescott homestead is now W. B. Farmer's Applecrest Farm. Prescott was one of the grantees of Kingston, and late in life removed to that place where he died in 1728. (*Hampton Falls*, Brown, Vol. 1, p. 557. *Hampton*, Dow, Vol. 2, p. 928.)

Tilton Garrison: The site of the Daniel Tilton garrison house, 1667, is on the corner of Monument Square, where the Akerman family lives (1937). Daniel² Tilton (William¹) was born in Hampton about 1648; married 23 Dec., 1669, Mehitable Sanborn. When he was about twenty-one years old, and at the time of his marriage, he was allowed "to sitt downe as a smith." Here on Hampton Falls Hill he built his house, the garrison, and also his blacksmith shop. (*Hampton Falls*, Brown, p. 573. *Hampton*, Dow, p. 994.)

HAVERHILL

Johnston Garrison: The house built by Colonel Charles Johnston, of Revolutionary fame, one of the first settlers, was surrounded in early days by a stockade. It still stands (1937) and is north of the Common on College Road, where a tablet on a boulder on the lawn tells its history.

HINSDALE

Daniel Shattuck Garrison: In the autumn of 1736, or '37 Daniel Shattuck put up a good sized and heavily timbered log house on the brook that ran through his lot in "Merry's Meadows," and now bears his name. This house he afterwards made into a fort, by building another similar structure on the opposite side of the brook, connecting the two by a plank palisade and surrounding the whole with a line of strong pickets. This fort was on the farm now known as the John Stearns place. The brook has since changed its course, and runs some distance to the south of the site of the fort.

John Evans Garrison: In 1741 John Evans built south of the Ashuelot (river) on what is now known as the Elihu Stebbins homestead. Evans was driven off in 1745, but returned after the close of the Cape Breton war. Evans' house was fortified in 1754, and served as a temporary refuge for the Stebbins and Stratton families then living on the opposite side of the river.

Josiah Sartwell Garrison: In 1738 Josiah Sartwell, then living in Northfield, Massachusetts, obtained from the general court a grant of a hundred acres, which was laid out on the west bank of the Connecticut. On this, in 1740, he built what was known as Sartwell's Fort.

Orlando Bridgman Garrison: In 1742 Orlando Bridgman built a blockhouse on his farm, which was about half a mile south of Sartwell's. This was assaulted and burned in 1747, when several persons were killed and others taken prisoners. (*History and Description of New England*, p. 528.)

Robert Cooper Garrison: In the spring of 1737 Robert Cooper built a house near the site of the old Hinsdale meeting house.

Hinsdell Garrison: The coming of these families (above) induced Rev. Ebenezer Hinsdell, then at Fort Dummer, to erect a block-house upon land he owned on Ash-swamp brook, and to build a grist-mill on the next brook, about fifty rods below. This mill-site was convenient to the settlers just now located, and would accommodate the garrison stationed at Fort Dummer. Hinsdell's buildings were put up, probably, in the summer of 1742, and stood on the bluff back of the meadow, about sixty rods east of the river. The cellar-hole of his "fort" is still to be seen about twenty rods southwest of the house of Lemuel Liscom.

These several block-houses, which were strictly private enterprises, and were used as dwellings, proved of great

service in the subsequent wars. Hinsdale was especially exposed to Indian raids, with records of several attacks on the garrisons, and murder of settlers working in their fields. An attack on the grist-mill was successfully repulsed. (The above garrisons given in the *Gazetteer of Cheshire County, N. H.*, 1736-1885, by Hamilton Child, p. 186.)



HOLLIS

Flagg Garrison: Eleazer Flagg, from Concord, Massachusetts, settled in the southwest part of the town (1732) on or near the place afterwards owned by his grandson, Captain Reuben Flagg, and now by Timothy E. Flagg, Esq. The house of Mr. Flagg is said to have been fortified against the attacks of the Indians, and was used as a garrison house. Mr. Flagg was the second settler. (*History of Hollis, 1730 to 1879*, S. T. Worcester, p. 32.)

HOOKSETT

Gault Garrison: The site of the Gault garrison is about three hundred feet west of the William Head house, between that house and the river. (Miss Edith S. Freeman, 1937.) Samuel Gault was born in Scotland; married Elsie Carlton, of Wales. They had three children born in Scotland; moved to Londonderry, Ireland, where two children

were born. They came to this country and settled in Hooksett, then included in Suncook. May 25, 1736, Gault purchased land now owned by his great-great-grandson, Morris C. Gault, and built his garrison house about 1737. (*History of Merrimack County*, p. 364.)

HOPKINTON

Kimball Garrison: Kimball's garrison house stood near the spot now occupied by the home of James K. Story, on the road from Hopkinton village to Concord. Aaron Kimball, claimed to be the builder of the house, is said to have come to Hopkinton from Bradford, Massachusetts. He was prominent in the early records of the town, and was called Lieutenant. His son, Abraham Kimball, was born here April 18, 1742, being the first white male child born in the township. He was captured by the Indians April 13, 1753. "The boy escaped through the sagacity of a dog that seized an Indian who was making preparations to kill the captive." (*History of Hopkinton*, C. C. Lord, 1890, pp. 29, 32. *History and Description of New England*, p. 532.)

Putney's Garrison: Samuel and John Putney, from Amesbury, Massachusetts, built a fort on what is known as Putney's Hill. The site is now marked by a tablet. (*History of Hopkinton*, p. 30. *Early Town Papers*, Vol. XII.)

Woodwell's Garrison: David Woodwell came from Hopkinton, Massachusetts, and built a fort near the location of the present village of Contoocook; the place is identified by the depression made in excavating the cellar. (*Early Town Papers*, Vol. XII.) The site of this garrison house, where Mary Woodwell, with seven others, was captured by the Indians in April, 1746, is on the Central State Road from Dover to Claremont, one-half mile east of Contoocook. The site is marked by a memorial tablet. A detailed account of the capture at Woodwell's garrison was written by the late General Walter Harriman and published in Vol. IV, No. 6, of the *Granite Monthly*.

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HUDSON

Hills Garrison: The Hills garrison stood about twenty-five rods east of the Litchfield Road, on the farm now owned by J. H. LeGallee. A granite boulder, with the following inscription, marks the location: "Site of the Hills Garrison, The First Settlement of Hudson, about 1710. Erected by Kimball Webster, 1901. Nathaniel Hills died April 12, 1748, aged 65. Henry Hills died August 20, 1757, aged 69." (*Hudson*, by Kimball Webster, p. 82.)

Blodgett Garrison: The Joseph Blodgett garrison was located about two and one-half miles below the mouth of the Nashua River, nearly half-way between the present river road and the Merrimack, on the farm now owned by Philip J. Connell. A boulder, with bronze tablet, is inscribed: "Site of Blodgett Garrison, Joseph and Mary Blodgett. Their eldest son, Joseph, born here February 9, 1718, being the first white child born in this town." (p. 83.)

Taylor Garrison: The John Taylor garrison was located upon that part of the Joseph Hills farm, containing 45 acres, that was willed to Gershom Hills by his father, Joseph. The farm is now owned by Charles W. Spalding. It was situated about equal distance between the Derry and Litchfield Roads as they at present exist. Some pieces of timber that entered into the construction of this garrison are still preserved by Mr. Spalding. (p. 86.)

Fletcher Garrison: The Fletcher garrison was situated a little south of the line as established in 1741, between Massachusetts and New Hampshire. It stood near the River Road, . . . and was occupied by Captain Robert Fletcher. (p. 87.)

Thus it will be seen that the Hills garrison was situated very near the north line of Nottingham West, as it was incorporated in 1733. John Taylor's garrison was about one-half mile south of the Hills garrison; Joseph Blodgett's was located about three miles southerly from the Taylor garrison; and the Fletcher garrison nearly three miles southerly from the Blodgett garrison. No one of these was more than one-half mile from the Merrimack. (p. 87.)

From anticipated attacks of the savages, the first settlers lived in garrisons, but there appears to be no record of depredations committed by the Indians.

KENSINGTON

When the first house was built in Kensington by Stephen Green, it is said there was not another dwelling between it and Canada, except the wigwams of the savages. People used a ladder to enter the house and at night drew in the ladder to prevent the intrusion of Indians. (*History of Newfields*, Fitts, p. 143.)

KINGSTON

Sleeper Garrison: The garrison of Aaron Sleeper, built about 1700, in which the first town meeting was held in 1750, was on the Exeter Road. (*History of Rockingham County*, p. 491.)

Sanborn Garrison: Site of the log cabin and garrison house of Ensign Tristram Sanborn; the log cabin was burned by Indians, and Ensign Sanborn immediately built a garrison on its site. Located west of the Aaron Sleeper garrison. (pp. 491, 493.)

Kingston was granted in 1694 to James Prescott, Ebenezer Webster and others belonging to Hampton. A short time subsequent to the grant, garrison houses were erected on the plain. The Indians were exceedingly troublesome to the settlers. (*History and Description of New England*, p. 545.)

LEE

Randall Garrison: "Built of logs with loop-holes for the discharge of guns," by Captain Nathaniel Randall. (*Landmarks of Ancient Dover*, p. 49.)

Captain Nathaniel Randall was born in Dover in 1695, and married about 1720, Mary, daughter of Israel and Ann (Wingate) Hodgdon. He settled in Durham (now Lee) in the early part of the eighteenth century, where he bought land on the north side of the Mast Road and built there a garrison house. He gave this garrison house and his homestead farm to his son, Myles Randall. It was taken down about 1850. (Frank A. Davis, M.D., from data given to him by Dr. Francis D. Randall.)

Doe-Fox Garrison: The site of this old garrison is on a road once called Cider Street, which turns off the Wadleys Falls-Lee Depot Road to the right at the South Lee school house and the site of the old Union meeting house. The garrison was built by Joseph Doe on land bought of John Bickford, 23 June, 1737. After the death of Mr. and Mrs. Doe, the house became the property of their daughter, who had married Elijah Fox. Up to that time it had been called the Doe garrison; later it came to be called the Fox garrison. About 1880, the old house was taken down. (John Scales, in Home Day address, delivered at Lee, August 23, 1916.)

The old garrison was a large, nearly square, two-story structure, with a very large chimney in one end. It was apparently never painted and presented a weatherbeaten appearance. There is no record that the garrison was ever attacked by Indians. (Frank A. Davis, M.D.)

Jones Garrison: The Jones garrison was at "Newtown," on the farm of the late Nehemiah Snell, Lee, and was built some time before the Doe-Fox garrison, probably about 1700, as there was a settlement in that part of Durham (now Lee) previous to that date, perhaps as early as 1670-80. At the time the garrison was built the Indians were

very troublesome, and it was often resorted to as a place of safety by the residents of that part of (then) old Dover. It was removed many years ago. (John Scales.)

MADBURY

Clark's Garrison: The site of Clark's garrison is nearly on the line between Dover and Madbury, on what in former days was called "Clark's Plains," on the old Mast Road. The garrison was built by Abraham Clark about 1693-4, and taken down in 1836.

Daniels' Garrison: Not much is known about this garrison except that it stood at the end of David's Lane, which led from the old Province Road inland a short distance. It was so called from David Daniels, who owned the farm originally. The house was made into a garrison. Several generations of the Daniels family lived here.

DeMerritt Garrison: This garrison was built by Eli DeMerritt, Jr., about 1720. Eli was the first son of Eli, or Ely de Merit, the immigrant, who took a grant of land in Madbury from Dover, April 11, 1693-4, and doubtless lived here. The garrison was taken down in 1836, and the present house erected near its site by Alfred DeMerritt, a great-great-grandson of Eli, Jr. This stands just under the brow of Pudding Hill, near the confines of the Dover line.

Zachariah Field Garrison: Lieutenant Zachariah Field (Darby¹) was born about 1645; removed to Dover around 1685, and died in 1720. In 1707 his house was a garrison, himself lieutenant commanding. (*Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire*, Vol. II, p. 232, by Charles Thornton Libby.)

The following, taken from Miss Thompson's *Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, p. 58, refers to this garrison: "Pudding Hill in Madbury, east of the railway station, on the back road to Dover. . . . Many Indian traditions are connected with Pudding Hill. Two men in early times were harvesting grain on the Davis land when some Indians stole in between them and their muskets, which lay on the ground while they were at work. Catching a glimpse of their foes, the men started, one for Field's garrison and the other for Woodman's, with the Indians in pursuit. Both got safely into garrison, and the signal guns, fired almost at the same instant, showed they arrived at the same time."

Gerrish Garrison: The Gerrish garrison stood in the field a little west of the present (1937) dwelling house of William Sanders. It was built by Captain Paul Gerrish,

who, at an early date, built the first saw-mill at the falls in the Bellamy River near by.

Meserve's Garrison: On the top of the hill, called "Harvey's Hill" (a corruption of Misharvey — Meservé), just east of the old house on the Meserve lands, stood the garrison called Meserve's. The earthworks can still (1937) be seen. It was probably built in the early part of the eighteenth century by Daniel Meserve, whose ancestors settled and built a garrison also in the Back River district of old Dover. The land of Daniel Meserve, Jr., is mentioned in a deed dated Dec. 19, 1746. This garrison was in the section called Freetown.

Tasker Garrison: This garrison was at the foot of Moharimet's Hill, so called from an Indian chief who had his fortress there. A "grant of land was given Charles Adams, of Oyster River, from Dover, Nov. 1, 1672, half of which he conveyed to his daughter, Mary, wife of William Tasker, March 11, 1693-4." (Copy of old record.)

The Taskers were living here at the time of the Indian massacre in 1694, and, being attacked at that time, fled to the Woodman garrison in Durham. After this time their house was fortified into a garrison. About 1820 the property was sold to Ebenezer Thompson DeMerritt, who took down the garrison and built the present house.

Twombly's Garrison: This garrison was probably built by William Twombly, who took land here in 1734. It stood a few rods above the present residence of the heirs of the late Judge Jacob Young. The garrison house was taken down in the spring of 1842 by a descendant of William Twombly, who erected a very substantial residence near by on the Twombly land, now the home of Richard and Mrs. Hale.

This account of the Madbury Garrisons was given by the late Miss Jennie M. DeMerritt, historian of Madbury.

MILFORD

Peabody Garrison: On the 13th of May, 1747, during the raging of the French and Indian War (begun in 1744), the inhabitants of Monson (early name of Milford) and Souhegan West (Amherst), then frontier towns, presented to the General Court a petition stating their exposed position and asking "that a guard for two garrisons and a small scout on our front may be granted to us."

The assembly gave orders for enlisting or impressing fifteen good effective men, under proper officers, to scout and guard Souhegan West and Monson till the "twenty-

third day of October, if need be," and also made provision that said men be shifted once a month.

One of these garrisons was located on the farm of William Peabody, upon the north bank of the river in Souhegan West, and the well used in connection with it can now (1901) be seen. To this garrison the early settlers of Wilton and Lyndeborough often fled. It was built as early as 1741.

Colburn Garrison: The log hut built by William Colburn in the easterly part of Monson (Milford) not far north of Long Pond was used as a garrison house in 1747. William Colburn was one of the first settlers, before the town was incorporated, and one of the signers, on May 13, 1747, of the petition for soldiers for defense of the garrisons.

Although the Indians passed up and down the valley of the Souhegan upon fishing and hunting excursions, and often crossed this territory upon warlike expeditions, there is no evidence that any white person suffered death at their hands.

Above notes from *History of Milford, 1738-1901*, George A. Ramsdell, pp. 15-23.

NASHUA

Cummings Garrison: The Cummings garrison was east of the Daniel Webster Highway, south of Split Brook, and east of the Old South Nashua Cemetery.

Galusha Garrison: The Galusha garrison stood east of the Nashua and Acton Railroad, a few rods north of the state line.

Harwood Garrison: The Harwood garrison was south of the mouth of the brook, and on the west side near the Merimack River. Mr. Harwood was killed by Indians near the door of this garrison.

Lund Garrison: The Thomas Lund garrison was a few rods east of the Daniel Webster Highway, on the north side of the brook that flows past the home of Horace E. Osgood.

Queens Garrison: Queens garrison stood near the home now occupied by David Stevens, on Bowers Street.

Solendine Garrison: The John Solendine garrison was not far from the Lund garrison, the exact spot not known. Solendine was the carpenter-in-charge, who built the first Congregational meeting house in Nashua, and the first bridge across Salmon Brook.

Weld Garrison: The Weld garrison was near the J. D. Gardiner place in South Nashua. Mr Weld was first pastor of the Congregational Church in Nashua.

Whiting Garrison: The Whiting garrison stood on the old Whiting farm, which covered a large area on both sides of the Robinson Road, extending from Salmon Brook to the Merrimack River. The exact site is not known.

The above list was furnished in 1928 by Mr. Charles B. Lund, of Nashua, authority on the local garrisons.

Nashua, under its original name, Dunstable, was for a long time a frontier town exposed to Indian depredations and annoyed by sudden onsets. In the spring of 1702 a party of Indians made an assault upon the settlement and killed several persons, among them the Rev. Thomas Weld, the first minister. (*N. H. As It Is*, p. 308.)

NEWFIELDS

The principal garrisons were on high land commanding a view of the river. (*History of Newfields*, by Rev. James H. Fitts, 1912, p. 57.)

Ames Garrison: The Daniel Ames garrison was built about 1720. The farm was called "Ames Possession," and is now (1937) owned by Smith Sanborn. The old garrison was a two-story building, with two rooms on the floor and two chambers. It stood near Piscassic River and the old mast-way, where the neglected graves of the family may be seen. It was burned in 1806. (p. 424.)

Folsom Garrison: The Jeremiah Folsom garrison was built in 1719, a two-story brick house, upon the hill south of Lamprey River village (Newmarket), now (1937) the property of the Mathes family. This garrison stood until 1874, when it was taken down. Susanna Folsom, afterwards Mrs. John Mead, the daughter of Jeremiah Folsom, when about ten years of age, stepped to the door one evening at dusk and saw Indians peering round the corner of the house. She quickly shut the door and gave the alarm. All was made secure, and there was no trouble. (p. 58.)

Hall Garrison: Captain Edward Hall built a brick garrison in 1722, which stood upon the spot now occupied by the residence of George W. Pease. It had a wooden portico over the front door, upon which was a small cannon. One evening the family discovered a pine bush standing in the garden on the south side of the house. Suspecting an Indian might be skulking behind the bush, a gun was fired into it, when the bush toppled over and disappeared in the darkness. In the morning traces of blood were found. This garrison stood until 1845.

Hilton Garrison: Captain William Hilton's garrison, erected about 1680, stood on Fowler's Hill, a little west of

the present dwelling. It was a log house surrounded by a palisade, with a sentry box on the barn. In the Indian attack of 1690, the men were at work in the field, and the sentry had fallen asleep. The Indians stealthily approached and fired on the defenseless farmers, who rushed for the garrison. Some were killed, among them a man who had lately come from England with considerable money for those times. In that time of terror he had buried his gold in the field and died without revealing the location, and the deposit has never been found. The garrison remained until about 1822. (pp. 57-58.)

Hilton Garrison: The Colonel Edward Hilton garrison, later on Colonel Winthrop Hilton's garrison, stood on or near the first Hilton house, in the field near the family graveyard. In the attack upon the haymakers in this field in 1706, the Indians intercepted the return of the white men to the garrison. (p. 58.)

Rollins Garrison: The Aaron Rollins garrison was formerly the home of Edward Taylor, his father-in-law, who was killed by Indians in 1704. In 1723, eighteen Indians attacked the garrison, and killed Rollins and a 12-year old daughter. His wife and other children were taken prisoners. The old cellar walls still remain, near the lower falls of the Piscassic River. (*History of Rockingham County*, Hazlett, p. 551.) For full account, see *Belknap*, p. 203.

Garrison: There was a garrison on the Hall's Mill Road at the Hanson place. (*History of Newfields*, p. 58.)

NEWINGTON

Nutter Garrison: Site of the Nutter garrison, built by Anthony Nutter, before 1663, — at Welshman's Cove. (*Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, Mary P. Thompson, p. 31.)

Downing Garrison: Site on Fox Point of the Downing garrison, no doubt built by Nicholas Harrison, who in his will of March 5, 1707, gives his son in-law, John Downing, and Elizabeth, his wife, "as my eldest daughter all my housing, orchards and lands at ffox pointe." John Downing died September 16, 1744, aged 85.

The garrison was built of logs, with four large rooms, each said to have been occupied by a family at one period. It was attacked more than once by the Indians, who on one occasion set fire to it, traces of which could still be seen when it was taken down about fifty years ago (1838) by Colonel Isaac Frink, who had acquired it. (p. 31.)

Furber Garrison: Lieutenant William Furber mentioned his garrison at Welch Cove, July 27, 1696. He was tried

by court-martial that year for dismissing his soldiers. Lieutenant Furber died September 14, 1707. (p. 50.)

Dam Garrison: John Dam's garrison was at Welch Cove. Sergeant Dam was summoned to appear before Governor Usher, September 26, 1696, for dismissing sundry soldiers posted at his garrison. This fault was perhaps owing to lack of provisions, which Sergeant Dam had complained of in a letter dated "Welch Cove, July 27, 1696." (p. 50.)

NEWMARKET

Smith Garrison: The site of the old Smith garrison house is on Lubberland Road, near Great Bay. It was built by David Davis in 1695. He was killed by the Indians in 1696, in which year Captain John Smith became the owner. He died in 1744 and his son, Ebenezer Smith, inherited the house. Ebenezer died in 1764, when his daughter, Margaret (Smith) Blydenbury, became the possessor. At her death in 1798 (about), her daughter "Peggy" (Margaret), lived there, and died in the garrison house, unmarried, about 1825. The old building was a typical two-story overhang type, and was demolished in 1880. The site was marked in 1934. (Notes about ownership copied from in-



SMITH GARRISON, NEWMARKET

scription under an old picture of the garrison owned by the late Hon. Channing Folsom, of Newmarket. This picture is here reproduced.)

NORTH HAMPTON

Dearborn Garrison: One of the first acts of the inhabitants was the erection of a garrison house, where all might take refuge in case of an attack by Indians. This garrison house stood a few rods southwesterly from the site of the first meeting house on the southern border of what was formerly called the "Green." (*North Hampton*, in the *History of Rockingham County*, p. 407.)

The *History and Description of New England*, printed in Boston in 1860, under *North Hampton*, says: "In 1734, the first meeting house was built and near it stood a garrison. In this garrison house was born, in 1706, Simon Dearborn, father of Major General Henry Dearborn and Captain John Dearborn." Dea. John³ Dearborn, born in Hampton, 10 October, 1666, had ten children between 1690 and 1710. If the son, Simon, was born in the garrison house in 1706, it must have been built previous to that year. *The History of Hampton* states that the son, Simon, lived in the homestead, and had twelve children born between 1729 and 1751. Thus, probably the garrison was standing some time after the latter year, and was built several years before the meeting house was erected.

NOTTINGHAM

Garrison: The site of the Nottingham garrison house, built about 1722, is on what is now the green between the Butler and Fernald houses. In this garrison the early settlers spent the nights during Indian troubles, and here the soldiers, sent from Exeter and vicinity to guard them, were stationed. In September, 1747, the soldiers then on duty at this garrison returned to their homes, their time having expired, all but Nathaniel Folsom of Brentwood. He and Robert Beard, who lived near by, were preparing sweet corn for their dinner in the garrison, and Folsom was just stepping through the door with a pail of water from the spring, when the Indians, Sebattis and Plausawa, shot him; they then killed Beard. Rushing down over the hill, Fish Street, they entered the house of Mrs. Elizabeth Simpson, who had gone to her home to bake bread, and stabbed her through the heart. The three victims were buried in the field near the garrison between the Butler house and Fish Street. The old garrison well has been preserved, its cold water still used. A rock curbing, in which has been placed

a bronze tablet, has been erected about the well and a well-sweep added. This was done by Else Cilley Chapter, D. A. R. A boulder with tablet has been placed on the green (unveiled August, 1936) in memory of those three who lost their lives in the Nottingham Massacre.

NOTTINGHAM WEST

(See Hudson and Pelham)

PELHAM

Butler Garrison: John Butler, of Woburn, was the first settler in that part of Nottingham West that is now the westerly part of Pelham.

John Butler bought of Jonathan Tyng, in 1721, two tracts of land in the east part of Dunstable, containing in all 600 acres adjoining what was then, and until the settlement of the Province line in 1741, the Dracut boundary. He settled there in 1722 and built a log house in the form of a garrison. It is supposed this house stood near the present Mammoth Road, on land formerly known as the John Gage place, east of Gumpas Pond. (*History of Dunstable*, p. 124.)

PEMBROKE

Moore Garrison: James Moore probably erected his house in 1730. It is said to have been the first framed building in the township, and the frame today (1885) forms a part of Samuel Emery Moore's house. Moore was very sagacious in his treatment of the Indians and gained their friendship; his place was avoided by them in after years during hostilities, though it was fortified to repel an attack. (*Pembroke*, by John N. McClintock, in *History of Belknap and Merrimack Counties*, Hurd, p. 563.)

Whittemore Garrison: Rev. Aaron Whittemore, born in Concord, Massachusetts, in 1711, was the first minister in Pembroke, 1737. During the French and Indian Wars his house, which stood south of the cemetery on Pembroke Street, was a garrison. He held the commission of first lieutenant for the provincial authorities of New Hampshire, and was in command of the fort. The house forms a part of the present (1937) residence. (p. 585.)

PORTSMOUTH

Thompson's "Great House": Thompson's "Great House", built by David Thompson about May, 1623, of which Samuel Maverick wrote in 1660, — "Thomson built a Strong and Large house and enclosed it in a large and high Pali-

zardo and mounted gunns, and being stored extraordinarily with shot and Ammunition, was a terror to the Indians. . . . This house and Fforte he built on a point of land at the very entrance of the Pascataway River." (*History of Rockingham County*, by Hazlett, pp. 95-96.) A monument erected by the New Hampshire Society of the Colonial Dames of America marks the site of this "Great House." It was for many years within the limits of Portsmouth, and is now included in the town of Rye.

Chadbourne's "Great House": William Chadbourne (Brewster's *Rambles* says Humphrey Chadbourne) built a "Great House" at Strawberry Bank (original name of Portsmouth) about 1631, — at the southwest corner of what are now Water and Court Streets. (Hazlett's *History of Rockingham County*, pp. 100, 103, 117. Brewster's *Rambles*, p. 18.)

Garrison House: Site of an old garrison house "at the head of Jacob Sheafe's wharf on Water Street." (Brewster's *Rambles*, p. 21.)

John Cutt Garrison: This garrison house was the residence of President John Cutt, — on what is now Market Street, near the Moffat-Ladd house, the home of the New Hampshire Society of Colonial Dames of America. (Brewster's *Rambles*, p. 21. *The Moffat-Ladd House, Its Garden and Its Period*, 1763, by Philip Dana Orcutt, 1935, p. 17.)

Garrison House: Site of the garrison house, later the Russell house,—near the Ferryways. These garrison houses (in Portsmouth) were probably some of the first houses built on the Bank (Strawberry Bank) after the erection of the Great House. (Brewster's *Rambles*, p. 21.)

Portsmouth Plains Garrison House: Site of garrison house on Portsmouth Plains to which the men fled during the Indian Massacre of June 26, 1696, — "located about north of the present site of the school-house in the field between the barn of Mrs. Joseph Sherburne and the elevation on the east. A cellar and well are yet visible in the field not far east from the orchard." (Brewster's *Rambles*, p. 73.)

Henry Beck Garrison House: The home of Henry Beck was a garrison house, built about 1664. The house stood on a bluff near the Moses house, on the south shore of Sagamore Creek, opposite the Middle Road, a decidedly picturesque spot, affording a view up and down the creek. A garrison house was maintained there. Henry Beck came from London in 1635 at the age of eighteen. He was taxed in Dover in 1648; was of Portsmouth before 1657; was allotted 60 acres in 1660; was at the Creek as early as 1664.

(*Pioneers of Sagamore Creek in Granite State Magazine*, Vol. 6, p. 256.)

“In 1705, the line of pickets, which enclosed Portsmouth, extended from the mill-pond on the S. side of the town to the creek on the N. side and crossed the street a few rods W. of the present site of the Court-house.” (*Gazetteer of New Hampshire*, 1817, p. 187. *Belknap*, p. 170.) This palisade across the isthmus cut off all approach by land.

ROCHESTER

In 1744, the proprietors voted to give to the settlers all the mill rents then due, to be appropriated for building five block-houses, or forts, — three on the great road that leads to Norway Plains, one at Squamanagonic upper mill, and one on the road by Newichwannoc River near the widow Tebbets's, or as his excellency should otherwise order. These forts were built, although the rents could not be collected to pay for them. Besides these public garrisons, many others were built at private expense, receiving the names of their owners.

Copp Garrison: Copp's garrison was near where Mr. Crockett lived in 1892.

Goodwin Garrison: The Goodwin garrison house was on land owned in 1892 by John Crockett, opposite the Bartlett place.

Main Garrison: The Rev. Amos Main occupied a garrison house near the top of Rochester Hill.

Newichwannoc Garrison: The garrison on the Newichwannoc Road was not far from Asa Roberts' house.

Rawlins Garrison: This garrison house was not far from the Richard Wentworth garrison.

Squamanagonic Garrison: The garrison at Squamanagonic stood where now is the garden of Colonel Charles Whitehouse.

Wentworth Garrison: The Richard Wentworth garrison house was built near where Thomas Fall lived (1892) on the main road.

The only one of these forts now remaining forms the rear part of the present house of Edward Tebbets. The upper story having been removed and the lower covered with clapboards and painted, it would not be recognized by any outward appearance as a house built to protect the people of Rochester from the tomahawk and scalping knife of the savages.

(Quoted from *History of Rochester*, Franklin McDuffee, 1892, Vol 1, p. 20.)

ROLLINSFORD

Sligo Garrison House: The Sligo garrison house was on a strip of land in the southern part of Rollinsford, near what is called “the Point” on the bank of the Newichwan-

noc River. Tradition is that the strip of land was named by James Stackpole, who, it is claimed, came from Sligo, Ireland. He was living here in 1680. James Stackpole's house "below Sligo garrison" is mentioned in 1709. The location of this garrison house was about opposite the Richard Nason garrison, on the Maine side of the river.

References: *Landmarks in Ancient Dover*, Mary P. Thompson, p. 64. *Old Kittery and Her Families*, Stackpole.

Pike Garrison: The site of the Pike garrison is near the Boston and Maine station on the road to Dover. This house was built about 1730, by Rev. James Pike, the first minister of Rollinsford, and was used as a garrison. In this house the Rev. George Whitefield, noted evangelist, was a guest.

RYE

Berry Garrison: The Berry garrison house at Sandy Beach was in existence as late as 1708. . . . it is a tradition that at this garrison house the settlers had a blunderbuss, or large gun, which they fired to frighten the Indians; but as powder was very precious in those days, it is not probable that it was fired unless hostile Indians were known to be in the vicinity. (*History of Rye*, by Langdon B. Parsons, 1905, pp. 250-251.)

This garrison was probably built by William Berry, the first settler at Sandy Beach, who was granted in January, 1648-9, "a lot upon the neck of land upon the South side of the Little River at Sandy Beach." He died before June, 1654. *New Hampshire Wills*, Vol. 1, p. 800, shows that the above grant of the neck of land had been in possession of his son, James, and grandsons, John Berry and Joshua Foss, since William Berry's death; this estate was divided on the 13th of June, 1717, into six parts. At the time the *old house* and barn were in possession of Nathaniel Berry, another grandson.

The site of the Berry garrison house was on what is now Washington Road, near the beach. When a settlement was made at Joslyn's (later Locke's) Neck, it was found that one of a number of tall trees there, from the branches of which a view could be had of the Sandy Beach location, had been worn very smooth, supposedly by the climbing of Indians to watch the Berry garrison house and see when people left it and where they went.

Locke Garrison: John Locke, who settled at Joslyn's Neck, which thereafter for more than two hundred years was known as Locke's Neck (now Straw's Point), was noted among the Indians for the daring and success with

which he fought them, and was hated by them in consequence. A raiding party of savages from the eastward landed one night at the Neck, concealed their canoes in the bushes, and proceeded inland to some point that had been selected to be attacked. Going into the bushes Sunday morning to read his Bible in solitude, Locke discovered the canoes, and immediately cut generous gashes in them with his knife, in places where the cuts would not be seen at a glance. The Indians, on returning to the place where they had left their canoes, after their murderous expedition, found the canoes apparently all right, not discovering in the darkness that they had been tampered with; but as soon as they put off from the shore, the canoes took in water so fast that they were compelled to hurry back to land. Finding the canoes damaged beyond repair, the savages were obliged to make their way eastward by land, suffering many hardships and losing several members of their party on the way. Afterward, a party came from the eastward with the express purpose of killing Locke, and surprised him as he was reaping grain in his field, his gun being some distance away, standing against a rock. Securing possession of the gun, they shot him through the thigh and he fell prostrate, but as the savages ran up to tomahawk and scalp him, he struck at one of them with his sickle, and cut off the savage's nose. This Indian, it is said, was seen in Portsmouth several times, years later, after trouble with the Indians had ceased in this section, and it was from his account of the manner in which he received his mutilation that the circumstances of Locke's last fight with the Indians were learned. The date of Locke's death was August 6th, 1694. (*History of Rye*, pp. 250-251.)

Garland Garrison: . . . The Garlands had a garrison house on Garland Road. (p. 251.) John Garland, grandson of the first John Garland, of Hampton, was born in that town April 13, 1692, and settled in Rye about 1720, where he was living as late as 1752. This John Garland, from the Garland genealogy in the *History of Hampton*, was the first one of the name to settle in Rye. He is probably the one who built the garrison house on Garland Road.

SALEM

Peaslee Garrison: The site of the garrison of Daniel Peaslee, one of the earliest settlers, was on the Silas Carey farm at the base of Spicket Hill. Here all the women and children of the outlying farms came to pass the nights; and here both religious and secular meetings were held as the

most convenient and acceptable place in the parish. (*History of Salem*, Edgar Gilbert, 1907, pp. 58, 59, 78.)

Ayer's Garrison: The site of Captain Ebenezer Ayer's garrison, where a band of men had their stronghold against Indian attack, was on the north side of World's End Pond on the Ayer farm. (p. 58.)

SALMON FALLS, N. H. — SOUTH BERWICK, ME.

Tozier Garrison: The site of the Tozier garrison house was across the river from the Paul Wentworth house in Salmon Falls. This garrison was used by the settlers living on the New Hampshire side of the river as well as those on the Maine side. It was built by Richard² Tozier, Jr., who, with his wife, Elizabeth (daughter of Elder William Wentworth), were more than once taken by Indians to Canada as prisoners. Richard Tozier, Sr., lived first in Boston, and later in Dover, N. H. He was mortally wounded in an Indian raid, October 16, 1675, at Salmon Falls, in the garrison house of a son, and later died in Kittery, Maine, as the result of his wounds. (Account of the Indian attack on the Tozier house, Vol. 42, pp. 188-195, *New England Historic Genealogical Register*.)

SEABROOK

Gove's Garrison: Site of Gove's garrison, built in 1703, is on the Lafayette Road, south of the entrance to New Zealand Road. This was a typical old garrison house, with overhang for shooting down at invaders. An oil painting was made of this building before its destruction.

On one occasion a man named Dow ran through the street crying "Indians!" A Mr. Gove, hearing the cry, mounted a stump, and saw thirty-two Indians crawl out of a hiding place. . . . The widow Mussey, a leader among the Friends, was killed; also Thomas Lancaster, on his way to mill. Lancaster's cries "were heard by some men who were building a garrison near by; they ran to his assistance, but finding the Indians superior in numbers, they fled." Others were killed in this attack. (*New Hampshire As It Is*, p. 384.) *Belknap* gives the date, August 17, 1703.

STRATHAM

Barker Garrison: A story-and-a-half building, long considered in the Wingate family to be a garrison, now stands near the Burton G. Saunders house (formerly the Wingate homestead) at the juncture of Portsmouth and Newmarket Roads. Its original site was on high ground beside the Mill

Brook, on the land of Major Benjamin Barker. Major Barker, born in 1730, had very early a fulling mill near this house. The so-called garrison was purchased by George Wingate about 1808, and later moved to its present site. (Miss Isabel C. Wingate, Miss Elizabeth H. Baker.)

Dearborn Garrison: The site of the Dearborn garrison house is on Stratham Heights, near the present home of Mr. St. Denis (1937). On the 1802 map of Stratham, the house is marked "J. Dearborn." It was a typical two-story garrison, the upper story extending out beyond the lower. It was burned about 1900. Mrs. Richard M. Scammon has a photograph of the house.

SWANZEY

Captain Nathaniel Hammond's Garrison: Very soon after the settlement of Swanzeay was commenced, grave apprehensions of the settlers' safety from Indian attacks were entertained, forebodings that were soon verified. As early as 1738 the building of a fort was commenced, rebuilding and stockading Captain Nathaniel Hammond's dwelling for this purpose. And on November 6th of this year, the proprietors voted that eighteen pounds of powder and thirty-six pounds of lead be purchased for a reserve stock. Subsequently it was voted to finish this fort, and to build two more.

John Evans's Garrison: One of the above two forts was built about the house of John Evans.

Fort on Meeting-House Hill: The other of the two forts was built upon Meeting-house Hill.

The wisdom of these precautions was soon made manifest, for Indian depredations became frequent and deadly. During the period from 1741 to 1747, several of the inhabitants lost their lives, and a number were made prisoners. In the spring of the latter date, it was decided by those who remained in the territory, to brave these dangers no longer. Accordingly, they collected together their household effects, and all such valuables as would not admit of easy transportation, buried them in the ground, concealing all traces under leaves and trees, and fled to Massachusetts. A Bible is now in the possession of one of the inhabitants which is said to have been buried under a brass kettle. The savages visited the town soon after, and destroyed everything they could find, leaving but a single house standing.

With the close of the Cape Breton, or first French and Indian War, these dangers ceased, and a few of the settlers returned to the scene of their pioneer labors.

(From *Gazetteer of Cheshire County, N. H.*, 1736-1885, Nathaniel Child, p. 435.)

WALPOLE

John Kilbourn Garrison: The site of the palisaded home of John Kilburn, the first settler, in 1749, is about one-third of a mile south of the Gold River Bridge, on the Monadnock Road, and is marked by a granite monument erected by Abigail Stearns Chapter, D. A. R. His family at the time of the Indian attack consisted of his wife, Ruth, and two children, Mehitable and John. Here occurred, in 1755, the Indian attack and siege which "was one of the most heroic and successful efforts of personal courage and valor recorded in the annals of Indian warfare." A particular account of "the Defense of Kilbourn's garrison" is given in the *Collection New Hampshire Historical Society*, Vol. II, pp. 55-57. (*History of Walpole, 1749-1879*, George Aldrich.)

WINCHESTER

The early settlers of Winchester (1744), who were left in a large degree unprotected, as the newly established province line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts had severed them from Massachusetts' protection, and New Hampshire had not found it expedient or convenient to assume their protection, . . . were entirely dependent upon themselves (to protect their homes and families from the Indians). Every occupied house was turned into a gar-



GARRISON HOUSE, BUILT ABOUT 1645.

risson. . . . No man walked abroad unarmed, and it soon became unsafe to step outside a stockade to milk a cow or feed an animal, and no field labor could be performed. Their harvests were destroyed and their horses and cattle killed. Then they abandoned their estates and buildings to their fate, and in the autumn of 1745 returned to Lunenburg (Mass.), where they remained until the spring of 1753, when they returned, rebuilt their desolated homes and began re-cultivating their wasted lands. Among these families were the Willards and the Alexanders.

Gazetteer of Cheshire County, 1736-1885, by Hamilton Child. *The History of Charlestown, N. H.*, on p. 31, refers to Willard's Fort, in Winchester, 1746.

GARRISONS

“In every frontier settlement there were more or less garrison houses, some with a flankart at two opposite angles, others at each corner of the house; some houses surrounded with palisadoes; others, which were smaller, built with square timber, one piece laid horizontally upon another, and loop-holes at every side of the house; and besides these, generally in any more considerable plantation there was one garrison house capable of containing soldiers sent for the defense of the plantation, and the families near, whose houses were not so fortified. It was thought justifiable and necessary, whatever the general rule of law might be, to erect such forts, castles, or bulwarks as these upon a man's own ground, without commission or special license therefor.” (*History of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay*, Vol. II, p. 67, Thomas Hutchinson; quoted by Samuel Adams Drake in *Nooks and Corners of the New England Coast*, 1879, p. 139.)

History of Rochester, N. H., page 20:

“Garrisons were built two stories in height, the lower story being of solid timber with strong window shutters fastened upon the inside. The upper story projected three or four feet upon all sides, so that water could be poured down to extinguish flames in case the house should be fired, while an enemy who came near was exposed to certain death. Loop-holes were provided large enough on the outside for a gun-barrel to be pointed through them, and hollowed or beveled upon the inside to allow the gun to be aimed in different directions. The second story was built according to the fancy or ability of the owner. In the Richard Wentworth garrison it was made of thick planks,

dovetailed together at the corners like a chest, and without any frame, except a few braces. The cellars of the public garrisons were divided by walls into many apartments for the accomodation of different families; this was the case with the one at Gonic. As an additional protection, oftentimes the whole building was surrounded with a rampart or palisade formed of timber or posts set in the ground. To these fortified houses the men, when driven from their labor in the field, retreated; here they left their women and children when they went abroad; and here they were compelled to pass much of their own time in inactivity, while perhaps the cattle were being killed in the pastures near by, and the crops remained unharvested or were being destroyed by the enemy.

“A few anecdotes will illustrate the cunning of the Indians and the necessary caution of the settlers. One day the cattle were discovered in the cornfield at Colonel McDuffee’s. The boys were starting at once to drive them out, when they were stopped by the colonel, who said he knew the fence was strong, and the rascally Indians must have laid a plot to trap them. No one was allowed to move out of doors for a day or two, but when it was safe to venture forth, the place of concealment contrived by the Indians was discovered, and it was evident that they had broken down the fence, driven the cattle into the field, and placed themselves in ambush to kill or capture whoever came out. At one of the garrisons a large number of hogs were kept, which were suffered to roam about during the day to feed upon acorns and such other food as they could find, and were called home at night. One evening they were called a long time, but none made their appearance. In the night, when it was quite dark, the hogs seemed to return suddenly, and a grunting as of a large drove was heard all around the building. The family, however, were too wary to be deceived, and at once suspected the truth, that the Indians had dispatched the hogs and were now imitating their grunts to entice somebody out of the garrison. These are only a few out of many tricks and treacheries of their crafty foes. More than once a hatchet was found sticking in the garrison door, as a token of threatening and defiance. That the imagination of the settlers sometimes magnified the real danger or excited needless fears is very probable. It could hardly be otherwise; for little would be required to produce alarm after a few persons had fallen victims to these wily and savage foes.”

COLONIAL FORTS

Although this collection was prepared in honor of the men and women who built and defended their own wooden castles through desperate times, a few forts ordered by the government enter into the story sufficiently to be missed if omitted. With these are included others built by non-resident Proprietors to induce settlers to enter or remain upon the grants, and some larger forts built by towns.

ALTON

The site of the colonial fort, erected in 1722 on a point of land near the entrance to Alton on Lake Winnepesaukee, is known as Fort Point. The order for building this fort reads thus: “. . . the fort at Winnepesaukee be one hundred feet square and fourteen foot square for the flankers, lower part, and seventeen foot upper part, jutting over.” (*Winnepesaukee Lake Country Gleanings*, by Edgar H. Wilcomb, pp. 24-26.)

BOSCAWEN

In the year 1739, this feeble colony, harrassed with fear, . . . appealed to the proprietors of the town, — men of Newbury, Massachusetts, who on December 6, 1739, “unanimously agreed forthwith to build a fort one hundred feet square, ten feet high, of timber and other materials for the defense of their settlers. This fort to be built on the school lot, near the meeting house, on King Street, which was completed in the course of the winter, and for more than twenty years proved a commodious garrison for all the inhabitants. Being furnished with muskets and ammunition, they were able to protect themselves, while they improved their farms.” (From *A Chronological Register of Boscawen, from the Settlement of the Town to 1820*, by Ebenezer Price, pastor of the Second Church. Printed in 1823, p. 31.)

The site of the old fort is marked by a granite tablet, inscribed: “Site of First Fort, A. D. 1739. One Hundred Feet Square. Built of Hewn Logs.” This is on the right side of the main street going north. (Mrs. Marjorie R. Emery, Librarian.)

CANTERBURY

The proprietors voted, March 15, 1744, to build a fort in Canterbury. This fort was constructed of hewn white oak timber, and was located on the hill near the house occu-

pied by Billy E. Pillsbury. Captain Jeremiah Clough was chosen to take command. His dwelling is said to have stood near the fort. Scout and garrison duty was constantly performed by the settlers, and by soldiers sent to the neighborhood by the provincial government.

A letter written by Thomas Clough, in 1758, saying that "inhabitants hardly dare stir from one garrison to another without a large company together," would indicate that there was more than one garrison in Canterbury. Those outside of the main fort, built by the proprietors, may have been only stockades, but that there were several fortified enclosures called forts is shown by a vote at a town meeting, March 16, 1758, when, in appropriating money for schools, it was provided "that each fort's people shall enjoy the benefit of their own money in their own fort." (*History of the Town of Canterbury, 1727-1912*, James Otis Lyford, pp. 28, 42.)

CHARLESTOWN

Old Number Four

When Old Number Four had been settled about three years the inhabitants began to consider building a fortification, or fortifications, in the township for the defense of



GARRISON HOUSE IN KING WILLIAM'S WAR.

the people. At a meeting held at the house of John Spafford, Jr., November 24, 1743, the erection of the fort having been decided upon, several votes were taken regarding the labor on the fort, the charge of building the fort, and that the committee be allowed £5:10s for setting up the house at the northwest corner of the fort and completing the same. The house was Lieutenant Witherby's. That John Hastings be allowed £25 for the benefit of his house and the damage of his land, and the use of one of the rooms in the house now building on the east of the fort so long as it holds peace, he not to take his house from the fort. It was also voted that Captain Spafford, Lieutenant Stevens and John Hastings be the committee to keep the fort in repair and take care that no person come to dwell in any of the houses within the fort but such as they, the committee, shall approve. The men who had houses in the fort were Captain Spafford, Lieutenant Stevens, Moses Willard and Lieutenant Witherby.

The fort was constructed in the manner of other fortifications of the time, which were only intended to afford a defense against musketry. It covered about three-quarters of an acre. (*History of Charlestown, Old No. 4*, Rev. Henry H. Sanderson, 1876, pp. 14-52.)

DOVER

The second meeting house was built about 1654, on the summit of Nutter's Hill on Dover Neck. A stockade, or fort, was ordered built around the meeting house as the following town record shows:

"By ye sellektmen ye 4th 5th mo (67) It is Agried with Capt. Coffin to Buld the forte about the metting house on Dover Neck, one hundred foot square with two Sconces of sixteen foote square, and all the timber to be twelve inches thick, and the wall to be eight foot high, with sells and Braces; and the sellektmen with the mellatory ofecers have agreed to pay him one hundred pounds in days workes, at 2 shillings 6 pence per day, and to all persons concerned in the worke, one day to help Rayse the worke at so many one day as he shall appoint."

The fortification was completed in some year before 1675. The upright timbers of the fort were set in the earth; at the northwest and southeast corners were the sconces, or projections, which were built higher than the palisade. (*History of Dover*, 1923, by John Scales, pp. 118, 120.)

Marjorie Sullivan Chapter, D. A. R., erected a face

wall along the eastern side of the meeting house lot, in which they placed a bronze tablet giving the history of this site, and including the outline of the old fort.

EXETER

Great Fort: Mention is made of a "great fort" in the town records of Exeter, typed copy of the *Second Book of Exeter Town Records*, p. 35.

At a town meeting on the 20th of January, 1695, . . . "ye mag^{or} part of ye Towne saw Cause to Erect ye s^d hous (meeting house) one ye Hill betwene ye Grat fort & Natll ffoulshams barne and so it was parficted by a voat of ye freeholders of ye towne att ye same meeting it was voated yt Capt Peter Coffing Samll Leauitt Moses Leauit Ware Chosen a Commity to a Gree with sutable persons to erect ye hous aboue mentioned and to make Report to ye towne of ye same."

FRANKLIN

The settlement of Salisbury, 1750, marked the beginning of the village which was to become Franklin. Twelve years later Andover and Northfield were established, and in 1764 the first settlers came to Sanbornton. The little group of villages, presenting a solid front to the wilderness, and protected by a small garrison *in the fort*, were relieved of the necessity of bending all their energies to self-preservation.

("Franklin, a Town, 1828, — a City, 1896." Article in *Granite Monthly*, 1923, Bound Vol., p. 153.)

GILMANTON

Block House: The site of the first block house, eighteen feet square of hewn logs, built by the proprietors, June, 1736, was a little west of the residence of Jeremiah Wilson, Esq. This block house was named White Hall, and the rock which served as the fireplace at the original camp (of the builders) is yet to be seen. (*History of Gilmanton*, Daniel Lancaster, 1845, p. 39.)

Block House: The site of the second block house, fourteen feet square, built in June, 1736, was at the Wares (weirs) near the outlet of Lake Winnepesaukee. (p. 39.)

GROVETON

Fort Wentworth: The site of Fort Wentworth, built in 1755 by Rogers' Rangers on their famous expedition against the St. Francis Indians, was on the bank of the Connecticut River about half-way between the village of

Northumberland and Groveton, near the mouth of the Ammonoosuc River, on the farm of Judson C. Potter (1937). In 1775, the fort was rebuilt by Captain Jeremiah Eames. (Mrs. G. W. Marshall.)

HAMPTON

On the 8th of July, 1689, following the Indian massacres at Dover and Oyster River, the town of Hampton voted "that all those who were willing to make a fortification about the Meeting House, to secure themselves and their families from the violence of the heathen, should have free liberty to do it." A fortification was accordingly built, which, about three years afterward, the town voted to enlarge so as to afford room "to build houses in it according to custom in other forts." How many houses were built is not known, but it was voted that a small house (14 by 16 feet) should be built there for the use of the minister, and when not occupied by him to serve as a school house. (*History of Hampton*, Vol 1, p. 225, *King William's War*, 1689-1693.)

KEENE

A fort was erected in Upper Ashuelot (Keene) in 1738. On the 23d of April, 1746, the town was attacked and all who could took refuge in the fort, and remained there for a year, their houses having been burned by the savages. The town was then abandoned for several years, the settlers returning in 1750-1752. (*History and Description of New England*, Coolidge & Mansfield, Boston, 1860, p. 539.)

As described in the *Granite Monthly* (Vol III, p. 549), this fort was ninety feet square, and contained two ovens and two wells. It was built of hewn logs. "In the interior, against the walls, were twenty barracks, each having one room. On the outside they were two stories high; on the inside but one, the roof over the barracks sloping inward. In the space above . . . were loopholes. . . . There were two watch-houses, one at the southeast corner and one on the western side, each erected on four high posts set upright in the earth. The whole was surrounded by pickets."

LYNDEBOROUGH

(Salem - Canada)

Interrupting the building, or finishing of their meeting house, the inhabitants of Salem - Canada, in fear of being obliged to abandon their settlement on account of Indian attacks, petitioned, on June 26, 1744, "his Excellency Benning Wentworth, Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Province of New Hampr", thus:

“The petition of the Inhabitants of Salem - Canada in said Province, Humbly Shows.

“That your petitioners live in a place greatly exposed to the Indians and have not men Suffucient to defend us, That tho’ there be but few of us yet we have laid out our estates to begin in this place So that we shall be extremely hurt if we must now move off for we have there by the Blessing of God on our labors a fine crop of corn on the ground and tho’ we have a Garrison in the Town Built by Order of Maj. Lovell yet we have nobody impowered so much as to set a watch among us nor men to keep it; we would therefore pray your Excellency that we may have some assistance from the Government in sending us some souldiers to Guard and Defend us as in your wisdom you shall think proper. Tho’ we are but newly added to this Government yet we pray your Excellency not to disregard us but so to assist us that we may keep our estates and do service for the government hereafter & your Petitioners as in duty Bound shall ever pray. . . .” This petition was signed by eleven men, five by the name of Cram. (*History of the Town of Lyndeborough, 1735-1905*, Rev. D. Donovan and Jacob A. Woodward, p. 37.)

The above petition shows that there was an early fort, or garrison, built in the town of Lyndeborough.

MANCHESTER

A fort for protection of the inhabitants of Goff’s Falls, then known as Moore’s settlement, and for those residing at Amoskeag Falls, was built in 1746 by Lieutenant Archibald Stark, father of General John Stark. It stood about two miles from the City Hall in Manchester, west of the Londonderry Road at the outlet of Nutt Pond. The site of the fort and its well was marked by Molly Stark Chapter, D. A. R., in 1929. (Mrs. Arthur F. Wheat.)

NEW CASTLE

Fort William and Mary: Ordered built by the Governor and Council under royal orders in 1666. June 19, 1666, “At a general towne meeting for the better carrying out of the fortification at Fort Point, it was voted that every dweller and liver in the towne above sixteen years of age shall and do here promise to worke at the same one whole weeke betwixt this and the last day of October next ensuing.” This old fort is now called Fort Constitution. (Brewster’s *Rambles*, p. 336.)

PETERBOROUGH

In a petition dated September 28, 1750, and addressed to the General Court assembled at Boston, the Proprietors and Inhabitants of a Township called Petterboro' Most Humbly Show that the said Township lyes exposed to the Indians it being a Frontier Town and but about Six Miles North from the line parting this Government and that of New Hampshire and Several Indians have appeared in said Township and last Sabbath day some of them broke open a house there and none of the family being at home Riffled the same and Carried off many things. And the Inhabitants are put in great fear and terror of their lives . . . and as the said Township is so Situated that if the inhabitants should leave it, Townsend, Hollis Lunenburg Leominster and Lancaster would be exposed to the Cruelty of the Indians and would become an easy prey to them. . . . Your pet^{ners} therefore most humbly pray Your Honours would be pleased to . . . Allow them Liberty at the Charge of the Government to build Block houses or a Fort and supply them with fifteen or twenty men. (Quoted in *N. H. As It Is*, p. 344.)

STAR ISLAND, or GOSPORT

There existed for many years a small fort on the point of Star Island, commanding the harbor, on which were mounted two great guns. This fort had probably been constructed and the guns placed on it about the year 1653, when an effort was made by the people of the Shoals, as well as those of the Piscataqua region, to fortify these places "against any forraine assaults that may be attempted." After a neglect of almost forty years, the great guns still remained, but Captain Willy found them "without any platforme or carriage fitt to travis them on and without powder bullet or match." March 19, 1691-2, Captain Willy was stationed at Star Island with a company of forty soldiers. During the war with the French and Indians, in 1745, the old fort at the point of Star Island was repaired and mounted with nine four-pounders. On the outbreak of the Revolution, and the dispersion of the Islanders, the fort was at last dismantled, and the guns sent to Newburyport, but the ruins of the ancient fortification are still (1873) discernible. (*The Isles of Shoals, an Historical Sketch*, John Scribner Jenness, 1873, pp. 123, 191-199.)

STRATFORD

A boulder with bronze tablet marks the site of an Indian trading post, and old fort, inscribed thus:

“Upon this site, 1768, was established the first Indian trading post upon the northern frontier. In 1775, a log fort was built upon the farm of James Brown by the first settlers upon the ‘Bluffs’ facing north on the Connecticut River.”

(Mrs. John C. Hutchins.)

SUNCOOK

The General Court of New Hampshire soon ordered (after the Indian attack in 1747) a garrison of eight men to be stationed at Suncook for the protection of the inhabitants. Although the attacks of the Indians were less frequent, the government did not relax its efforts for defense, but sent out scouts and reinforced garrisons. Ebenezer Eastman had a company of fifteen men on duty at Pennacook in the winter of 1747-48, and Captain Moses Foster had a company of twenty-six men guarding the *fortress* at Suncook in 1753. (Bow in the *History of Belknap and Merrimack Counties*, Hurd, p. 268.)

See short sketch of the Indian attack upon Robert Buntin and his son, Andrew, and James Carr, — same page.

WALPOLE

Colonel Benjamin Bellows erected his house in Walpole in 1752, and brought there his wife and five children in 1753. It was built sufficiently strong for defense and was shaped like the letter L, being about one hundred feet in the arms and twenty feet broad, of heavy logs and earth and surrounded by a palisade. The site was near the spot where, in 1885, stood Thomas Bellows’s horse-barn, a little north of his dwelling.

Colonel Bellows drew men and supplies for his fort at the public expense. His fort had been, with others in the chain of defenses, supplied with a heavy iron cannon by the royal government for public protection. He had also caused a lookout to be constructed from the top of his fort into the forks of a large elm standing near by, which commanded an extensive view in all directions. There was also *another fort* on the river bank, west of Mrs. Joseph Wells’s residence, to protect the settlers in going back and forth from the upper part of Westminster which was settled early. (*Walpole, As It Was and As It Is, 1749-1879*, George Aldrich, pp. 18, 23.)

INDIAN FORTS

It is interesting to find that the Indians had at different times built defenses to protect themselves against hostile tribes.

HINSDALE

The remnants of an Indian fortification, erected anterior to the settlement of the town, may be seen on a point of a hill a short distance from the Connecticut River. A deep trench, extending to the river, divides the site of the fort from the plain at its back, and would prove a very strong obstacle to an enemy in case of attack. (*History and Description of New England*, p. 528.)

OSSIPEE

Near Ossipee Ponds, . . . the Indians had a strong fort of timber fourteen feet high, with flankarts, which they had a few years before (before 1676) hired some English carpenters to build for them, as a defense against the Mohawks, of whom they were always afraid. (*History of New Hampshire*, Jeremy Belknap, p. 77.)

SANBORNTON

At the head of Little Bay are still to be seen the remains of an ancient fortification. It consisted of six walls, — one extending along the river and across a point of land into the bay, and the others in right angles, connected by a circular wall in the rear. Within the fort have been found numerous Indian relics, such as implements of war, husbandry, cooking utensils, &c. When the first settlers of Sanbornton arrived, these walls were breast high, and within the enclosure large oaks were growing. (*New Hampshire As It Is*, Edwin A. Charlton, 1857, p. 380.)

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